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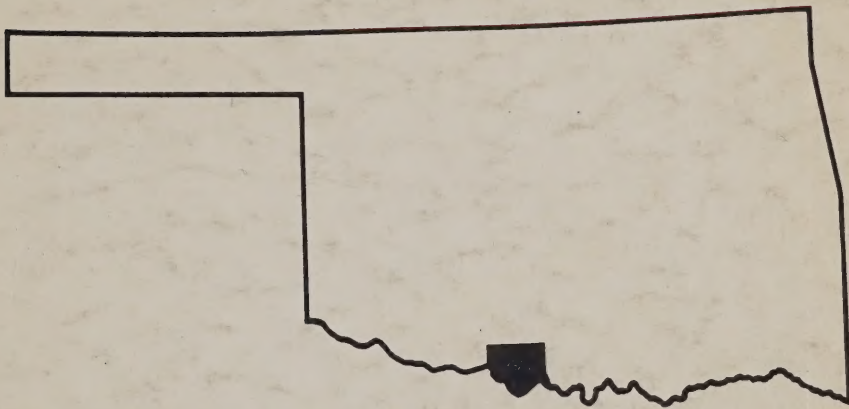
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HISTORY OF



Jefferson County

Oklahoma

PREFACE

In preparing a "History of Jefferson County, Oklahoma," I beg leave to submit to the recording public the reasons which impelled the effort.

First, 1957 is Oklahoma's Semi-Centennial as a sovereign State of the Union of States. And Jefferson County is a sovereign unit of Oklahoma. The first fifty years of Statehood have been rich in productivity and development of our natural resources, and this is worthy of mention.

Another reason might be termed a desire to put on record some of the most outstanding factors which have entered into the "birth and growth" of Jefferson County, as a way of preventing all of the heroic past from being lost to the present and future generations.

As a third factor which gave impetus to this effort, I have not been unmindful of the conviction that the pioneers who founded and built so well in this area before statehood and before Jefferson County had been dreamed of, during the time we were a part of Comanche County, Oklahoma Territory, that these pioneers had built well and honorably, was beyond any doubt, and it is altogether fitting that public recognition be given them.

The hardships and privation which many endured were such as to appear well nigh impossible and unbearable to many of the present day. And yet, the fathers and mothers of half a century ago were zealous in their efforts to conquer and refused to recognize defeat. The present generation is enjoying a rich and blessed legacy. However, it has all been worth the cost, and may the appre-

ciation of all the heirs to the results of their courageous spirits be a partial reward.

A complete recital of all the people who came early and worked late to redeem a country from its primitive state of nature would entail a tremendous task which this history could not assume. But with better reason, we shall confine the message, as all history does, to types. Therefore, we are fully cognizant of many, all of whom wrought wonderfully, that we have omitted from personal mention. Of those "personalities" mentioned we trust they shall be recognized for what they are meant—types of all other who wrought so ably and so deservingly. Those who gave us our school, our churches, our business institutions, our comfortable homes in place of shacks and dug-outs in which many of them were forced to live until better situations could be brought to prevail, comprise the foundation stones of a more modern civilization.

No claim is made for this volume as an all inclusive story of Jefferson County. Only one claim is this. Every statement of fact found herein is substantiated by competent authorities, or from the most reliable source available.

I am deeply conscious of my personal inadequacy and limitations.

Hence, I send this little volume out to the reading public with the hope of it bringing a little pleasure and some joy to all who may read it. And may I dare to ask for your patience and good will as you turn its pages.

Sincerely,
J. M. DYER

SECRET

This volume is dedicated to the younger generation of the present, and those who will comprise the older generation of the Centennial Anniversary of the Sovereign State of Oklahoma.

J. M. Dyer

CHAPTER I

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Congressional Enactments

Any understandable recital of Jefferson County, Oklahoma, as a unit of the State, must necessarily begin with a brief explanation of the 98th Meridian of Longitude.

In 1870 the Federal Government employed a staff of Civil Engineers to make the first general land survey as between the Chickasaw Nation and Western Oklahoma. This was the first step the Federal Government took as a far-away look toward eventual Statehood.

The Initial Point, or the point of beginning, was set up one mile south of Fort Arbuckle. The government surveyors selected the 98th Meridian as the dividing line between the five civilized tribes living east of this Meridian, and the blanket tribes living west of this line. In those days this line was more familiarly known as the Indian Meridian.

Having decided upon the 98th Meridian as a dividing line between the Indian Territory and Oklahoma Territory, it was surveyed from the Initial Point directly south as far as the Red River.

At this time Waurika, as a municipality, had not been dreamed of. All that had been done up to this time was nothing more than a far-away look at Statehood.

When Statehood became a reality approximately thirty-seven years later when Waurika became a County Seat this 98th Meridian of Longitude came into prominence since Waurika is the only Oklahoma County Seat town through which it passes.

When town lots were surveyed and platted by the Kingfisher Improvement Company under the Ownership and Management of the Kelley Brothers, T. B. Kelley and E. J. Kelley, all of Waurika at that time was necessarily located on the west of the Meridian line for the reason titles could not be had to lands east of the Meridian. Titles to these lands must wait until restrictions as to sale of the same were removed from the Indians owning this area. But as the Indians were permitted to sell their allotments, such additions as Conner's, Harper's and others were platted from lands originally owned by Elibabeth Bohannen, the Indian whose Allotment these lands were.

This 98th Meridian was a boundary line between two nations, the five Civilized tribes to the East; the Comanche, Apache, and the Kiowas to the West.

To the east were five tribes of quiet, peaceable, progressive peoples who had many of the early evidences of a progressive race. While those to the west were a war-like people who lived by the bow and arrow, the hunting knife and the hardihood of a sturdy, unconquered race who apparently cared little of civilization.

As a move to perpetuate the original meaning and purpose of the government in establishing this boundary line, and its relation to Jefferson County and Waurika, the ladies of the Delphian Club in Waurika in Co-operation with the Oklahoma Historical Society, set a Historical Marker at a point on the south boundary where the 98th

Meridian and Federal Highway 70 cross at right angles. This marker was set in 1956.

It is hoped that future generations may know something of the historical importance to Oklahoma, and particularly to Waurika by this little marker put there by the tender hands of loving mothers.

The Dawes Commission

In 1893 Congress provided for the appointment of a Commission which came to be known as the Dawes Commission. The chief duty of this Commission was to induce the Five Civilized Tribes to surrender their titles to Indians lands and to take allotment of land in severalty.

This was indeed a forward step toward uniting the Indian Nation and Oklahoma Territory for Statehood. Otherwise individual titles to lands in the Indian Territory could not have been possible.

It was thus made possible for Waurika as a municipality to expand eastward and thus cross the 98th Meridian. Today, three-fifths of the residential district is located east of the Meridian. It will be noted that the Rock Island Rail Road does not deviate too much from the 98th Meridian as it crosses Jefferson County.

The Enabling Act.

On June 16, 1906, President Theodore Roosevelt signed the "Enabling Act" which had been passed by Congress providing for the organization of Oklahoma and Indian Territories into one state.

The Enabling Act provided for the calling of a Constitutional Convention which was to meet in Guthrie.

The election for selection of delegates was set for November 4, 1906. Then on November 20, 1906 these delegates met at Guthrie and the Constitutional Convention was in actual session.

Judge Cham Jones of Ryan was elected as delegate from this area which was to comprise Jefferson County. Judge Jones was well qualified for the important work of carving a state from a combination of two undeveloped territories. It was he who prescribed and fixed the county boundaries from each of the two uniting territories. His home at that time was Ryan, I. T.

Ryan had long been the seat of a Federal Court for Indian Territory.

J. F. Pendleton, also a resident of Ryan was the Federal Court Clerk.

Under a Convention regulation, the delegates were permitted and authorized to name the County Seat of their respective Counties until such time as the Counties might locate such County Seat by the vote of the qualified electors of the County. Under this authority, Judge Cham Jones named Ryan as the seat of government for the County he had so appropriately named Jefferson.

Election and Statehood

Oklahoma Territorial Governor, Frank Frantz, issued a proclamation setting Tuesday, Septem-

ber 17, 1907, as general election day. Qualified electors of the two territories were to adopt or reject the Constitution and statewide prohibition. All state, district, and county and township officers were to be elected.

The following named citizens were elected to the various positions in County Government as set opposite their respective names.

COUNTY OFFICERS

S. P. Treadwell, Ryan.....	Sheriff
P. T. Hamilton, Cornish.....	County Attorney
George M. Bond, Terral.....	County Judge
J. M. Dyer, Hastings.....	County Clerk
M. C. Fisher, Ryan.....	Register of Deeds
W. J. Chapman, Grady.....	County Treasurer
L. L. Wade, Ryan.....	County Supt. of Schools
R. F. Brown, Ryan.....	Court Clerk
J. R. Day, Sugden.....	County Surveyor
C. F. Richards, Ryan.....	Public Weigher
County Commissioners and Township Assessors	
N. P. Giles, Hastings.....	District #1
J. F. McClure, Grady.....	District #2
J. M. Bound, Ryan.....	District #3

Oklahoma Territory had a system of Assessing property for tax purposes by Townships. This system prevailed after statehood until the state legislature abolished all township governments and created the office of County tax Assessor. T. B. Leverett of Ryan was elected as first tax assessor after township governments were abolished.

The following are the respective townships which prevailed until the change was made.

Township	For Whom Named	Area or Town
Bourland.....	J. P. Bourland.....	Hastings
Price.....	J. S. Price.....	Addington
Earl.....	Perry Earl.....	Cornish
Grayson.....	N. B. Grayson.....	Waurika
Patterson.....	T. N. Patterson.....	Sugden
Wright.....	John Wright.....	Atlee
Blackburn.....	Bill Blackburn.....	Ryan
Brown.....	Joe Brown.....	Grady
Wray.....	S. L. Wray.....	Terral

Each of these township units of the county elected a tax assessor at the general election on September 17, 1907.

MARRIAGE AND STATEHOOD

As the people of Oklahoma and Indian Territories had carried out the provisions of the Enabling Act, President Theodore Roosevelt issued a proclamation declaring Oklahoma a State effective November 16, 1907.

Here is a direct quotation from Muriel H. Wright, "OUR OKLAHOMA" Quote "On that day, (November 16, 1907) an immense throng gathered at Guthrie to witness the induction into office of the first Governor of Oklahoma and other State officials. As a part of the celebration to commemorate the important event, a pageant was given showing the marriage of Miss Indian Territory to Mr. Oklahoma Territory."

At the same time, the same being at ten o'clock on the morning of November 16, 1907, all elected township and county officials in and for Jefferson County met in the Court House at Ryan for the initial and legal beginning of Jefferson Coun-

ty. This gathering was attended by many of the citizens of Ryan and various sections of the County. The gathering met in the same building as had housed the Federal Court of Ryan, I. T.

J. M. Dyer, County Clerk, was sworn into office by the former Federal Court Clerk, J. F. Pendleton. Then he in turn administered the oath of office to all other County and Township Officials.

Thus an old regime of Federal Courts, Federal Officials, all of whom were Federal Appointees, passed and a new age and a more liberal form of government came into existence for the whole of the two Territories which had been united in marriage on that memorable morning.

TRANSCRIBING RECORDS

As previously stated, at Statehood there was an official known as the Register of Deeds. Mr. M. C. Fisher of Ryan had been elected to this office. Therefore, it was his duty to register all legal documents such as Titles to lands, mortgages and etc.

The first official act of any of the elected County Officials was the meeting and organization of the County Commissioners.

J. F. McClure of Grady was elected Chairman. Then followed the approval of Bonds and such other enabling steps necessary to County Government.

The very next step in this direction was to authorize the Register of Deeds to go to Lawton, Comanche County and transcribe all records for that part of Jefferson County which had been a part of Comanche County, Oklahoma Territory and record them in Jefferson County.

In this apparently unnoticeable step, the Indian or the 98th Meridian played an important part. This involved all lands and towns to the West of this Meridian to Comanche County and North to the present north boundary of Jefferson County.

How to do this and how to pay County Officials was not unlike a young married couple faced with the duties of setting up a home and equipping it with the necessities when funds were limited.

Just how was this all to be done without funds? County officers had a legal reason to expect their salaries, courts must operate and etc. In the next section of this recital we shall learn how this problem was solved. Let it be understood there were no resources for raising money until the County could make an assessment of taxes. Let another matter be kept in mind. Lands on the east side of the 98th Meridian were non-taxable except in a few very rare instances. These lands were owned by the Indians who had taken their respective allotments under the Dawes Commission.

STATE AND DISTRICT OFFICERS

The Honorable Charles London of Hastings was elected in the General Statehood Election as County Representative in the first State Legislature.

Judge Frank M. Bailey of Chickasha was elected District Court Judge. Later the Judicial Districts were changed. Jefferson County being districted with Comanche County and Stephens County.

Judge Cham Jones served this Judicial District for a number of years. In fact until his health forced him to retire to private life, whereupon,

he returned to Waurika and spent his last days in his Waurika Home.

The present District Judge, Arthur J. Marmaduke, is a Jefferson County product. He grew up at Ryan and Waurika. His Judicial career has been marked by fairness, honesty, and firmness. His Judicial decisions are practically free from criticism or reversals.

HOUSE KEEPING

The Peoples Bank and Trust Company, Ryan, granted a short term loan of approximately \$5,000.00 to the County to enable the County Commissioners to pay cash for such operating expenses as were imperative.

In the meantime the Commissioners were negotiating with the Commissioners of the State Land Department for a loan to the County in the sum of \$20,000.00.

This loan was granted on February 24, 1908, and as of March 2, the proceeds of the loan were apportioned as follows.

Salary Fund	\$ 6,000.00
Court Fund	\$ 4,000.00
Poor & Insane	\$ 500.00
Road & Bridge	\$ 5,000.00
Supplies	\$ 3,000.00
Contingent	\$ 1,500.00
Total	\$20,000.00

Peoples Bank and Trust Company of Ryan was designated as the Depository of County Funds. In all of this particular matter Mr. M. H. Barrett and Mr. Homer V. Bird, President and Cashier respectively of the Peoples Bank and Trust Company rendered invaluable assistance in a willing co-operative spirit with the County Commissioners in the "House-Keeping" set up for Jefferson County.

No taxes could be levied until a determination of taxable property was available in the form of a County Tax Roll. After this, collection of taxes could begin as of approximately October 1908.

In all of this experience at the beginning of Statehood the elected County Officials performed their respective duties in a fine way without any show of envy or jealousy. Every official was content with his own responsibility and met it with a cheerful spirit.

On one occasion when Judge Frank M. Bailey was holding Court in this County, he said, "If the world would learn to live as friendly and neighborly in helpfulness, one to another, as does the official family of this County, I would think the Millennium had come."

PRESENT DAY RESOURCES

One fourth of the geographical area of Jefferson County lies west of the 98th Meridian. The remaining three fourths is east of this meridian. West of the Meridian has been and still is almost entirely an agricultural area. For many years cotton was the principal crop and gins were numerous and were operated to their full capacity during the cotton picking season.

Those were the days when cotton was "PICKED" from the burr. Pulling bolls was a much later process of "gathering the cotton crop."

Corn was grown in abundant crops. In 1908 it

was a common sight to see corn "picked" up on the ground at Hastings, Addington, Sugden, and Ryan in long ricks piled as high as could be thrown from the wagons by scoop shovels. And the section lines were scattered with corn that had fallen from the wagons that were hauling the corn to these markets.

The Red River makes a majestic sweep around all the southern border of the county and the valleys in these bends constitute an area of very fertile agricultural soil. These valleys continue as the most fertile agricultural areas of the county.

In those days, the county could boast of gins at Addington, Ryan, Hastings, Waurika, Sugden, Terral, Fleetwood, Grady, Cornish. Probably twenty or more in all. That figure is much less as of to-day.

The Indian Territory side of the county was blessed with both the agricultural industry and the stock raising business. Many large spreads of grazing lands were to be found on the east side of the county. Those grazing lands are still a part of our economy.

As of today, home life on the ranches of Jefferson County is as modern as will be found in the cosmopolitan areas of any county in the state. The modern ranch home is a delight to every one who sees them. And they are located in every section of the county, mostly, however, on the east side of the county.

The type of cattle grown on these ranches are much improved over the type as of fifty years ago. Today, we see pure bred whitefaces, the Aberdeen Angus, and the principal beef breeds; while the high grade milk producers are the pride of livestock industry of the county.

THE OIL INDUSTRY

The production of oil in the south-east areas of the county is on the increase. East and southeast of Ryan may be seen oil wells pumping in every direction over a large area. What is quite generally referred to as the "Oscar Field" comprises a large area of the Wilmer Seay ranch and adjoining holdings. In addition to this, the Spring Field comprises another producing area that is broadening in most every direction. Just what the next ten years may show in the Oil industry in the county is a promising possibility which no one can visualize at present.

Competent and reliable authority advises that no less than 450 wells are now producing in this area.

New locations and new oil producing sands are common developments and no longer calls for any great or unexpected surprise.

THE CHICAGO AND ROCK ISLAND RAILROAD

The Chicago and Rock Island railway had its beginning in 1852 when it began Construction from Chicago south to Rock Island which point was reached in February 1854.

Its building was beset with many difficulties. The Steamship Companies opposed the railroad because, as they said, it would interfere with their traffic up and down the Mississippi River.

Lawsuits followed from various sources of op-

position. Abraham Lincoln was the attorney for the Rock Island.

Year after year the rails were laid always stretching toward Red River and Texas.

Upon reaching Oklahoma, the survey for the road bed followed roughly the old Chisholm Trail.

El Reno was reached early in 1890. From there the track stretched to Minco in February 14, 1890 where building for the time being came to an end.

In 1892 building was resumed on the line from Minco, south and the Texas border was reached the latter part of that year.

And herein lies the fact that our Rock Island Railroad was built across where Jefferson County was later established in 1892.

Before entering Texas, the Chicago Rock Island and Texas Railway Co. was granted a charter in Texas. Then it was that construction was begun from Fort Worth and the track was laid north to connect at the Red River.

Thus was opened service from Chicago through the gate way south to the Lone Star State after a lapse of forty years from its beginning.

Why make mention of these details extending through a period of four decades. These facts are a part of not only the history of Jefferson Co. but of every section of the State of Oklahoma.

The present attainments economical, social, educational, are directly and inseparably connected with our railroads. They have, since their earliest days, been the Burden Bearer of our nation. If the box cars, the passenger coaches, the steel rails, the old steam engines, could speak, we would probably hear them saying to us "we are the nations number one delivery boy." "We never sleep. Night and day, month in and month out, year after year, summer and winter, rain or snow, storm or flood, I carry on."

And thus it is that the Rock Island has been a vital force in the development of Jefferson County from a raw untamed area to our present system of public schools and Christian Civilization.



Jefferson County Courthouse.

Every department of County Government from November 1907 to 1931, had been located in rented quarters. First at Ryan, later at Waurika.

In numerous instances two County Officials occupied the same room for office space.

While these temporary quarters were fairly well adapted to the requirements they were far from being adequate to the expanded need in more than twenty years which intervened from 1907 to 1931.

In 1931 Jefferson County's present Courthouse was completed. From the foresight and wise judgment of County Commissioners, funds were gradually accumulated, year by year, until a sufficient amount had been set aside to justify a contract for the Court house as we see it today.

This fund was accumulated from fines, fees, and forfeitures which normally go into the Court Fund.

Thus it was, that the Jefferson County Courthouse as we see it today was built without any bond issue or special tax, and when completed it was formally accepted by the County Commissioners free of any indebtedness.

The Board of County Commissioners at that time was composed of E. J. Bean, Chairman; S. Cofer, member, Claud Thorp, member.

Other county officials were as follows:

J. H. Harper, County Judge
Earl Pruet, County Attorney
Linzy Goza, Sheriff
O. O. Teeter, County Clerk
G. M. Benton, County Treasurer
Ward Cashion, Tax Assessor
L. G. Morgan, Court Clerk
J. A. Story, Superintendent of Schools

The firm of Layton, Hicks, and Forsyth was responsible for the architectural design of the building and W. L. Scott of Sulphur, Oklahoma, was designated as the contractor.

The contract price was \$44,500.00 "good and lawful money of the United States of America" as recorded on page 286 of volume 4 "Commissioners Proceedings," Jefferson County, Oklahoma, under date of September 3, 1931, and attested by O. O. Teeter, County Clerk.

Thus was actual construction begun in 1931. Approval and acceptance by the County Commissioners was in 1932.

It is well to remember that Jefferson County was new in those days, and it required much time and effort to get a positive and settled policy acceptable to the public mind.

Jefferson County was not alone in trials at securing a new and adequate Court House erected.

The first resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners looking to the building of a Court House was signed by A. L. Dunkin, Tom Dorsett, and D. A. Cathey as of May 1, 1929.

This resolution contemplated the building of a Court House on lots one to eight inclusive on block No. 9 of the original town-site of Waurika, Oklahoma.

It contemplated the first floor building, the complete building to be finished later.

Delays from various causes and from various reasons delayed the beginning.

The first bids received were not opened. A temporary injunction stalled the immediate beginning. However, after the delays had been overcome and more funds had been accumulated in the County Treasury, proceeding of construction

bringing the New Court House to completion was far more rapid.

The building is four stories high with jail facilities occupying the fourth floor, and was entirely free of any indebtedness upon its completion.

The County was very fortunate in getting such a building for what it cost. With materials and labor at present day prices, to duplicate it today would cost \$150,000.00, possible more. Many consider this a conservative estimate.

The citizenry of Jefferson County have a justifiable pride in a Court House which is the equal of that of any Oklahoma County of equal population and property values.



County Fair Ground sheds.

STATISTICS

Jefferson County is 19th in area in our State. The climate is among the most favorable to farming and ranching. Resources of the county are varied. The principal farm crops are corn, cotton, wheat, oats, sorghums, watermelons, fruit in abundance when seasons are reasonably favorable.

Within the last 10 years oil production has become a major resource in several producing areas. These areas are being widened to the extent that boundaries of oil and gas production do not remain constant. The most productive oil field in the county at present is east and south of Ryan.

The county is second in the cattle industry. In 1941, there were 30,000 head of cattle, over 2,000 sheep, 1400 hogs and 5700 poultry listed on the tax roll. In addition to this, there were 2466 horses and 1161 mules rendered for taxes that year. These figures have changed materially since 1941. The prolonged drouth forced the cattle man to sell his herds down to where a few could survive where hundreds normally grazed.

Modern farming equipment has displaced the horse power. Farming today is an art when compared with two decades ago. The cowboy and his pony have gone. They now "ride herd" on the Black Angus and Whitefaces in a high powered car.

In Jefferson County there are 42,000 acres of non-taxable land. This is owned by the Federal Government, Indian land, County owned land, churches and charitable institutions. The County has approximately 173,000 acres in cultivation and over 300,000 acres in pasture land.

The County has never taken a backward step. Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company has 30 miles of main line and about 15 miles of side track in the County. The Enid and Anadarko branch of the main line extends northwest from Waurika through Hastings, Temple, Walters and Lawton, has 9 miles in Jefferson County. The Healdton and Santa Fe Railroad has 4 miles of track in Jefferson County. A part of this is side track.

In corporate property subject to taxation, Jefferson County has the Magnolia Pipe Line Company, Sinclair Refining Company, Stanolind Pipe Line Company, Oklahoma Pipe Line Company, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, The Terrel Telephone Company, Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company, Oklahoma Natural Gas Company, Lone Star Gas Company, The Cotton Electric Cooperative and The Public Service Company of Oklahoma.

The county enjoys a high class citizenry. The law enforcement officers have light duties to perform. There is no organized crime in Jefferson County. There are times when the regular term of court comes around, the Court Docket is well nigh a blank. We are a peaceful, public spirited people from any boundary line of the county to the next boundary across the county are neat, modern homes occupied by an honest, law-abiding, God fearing people.

We can unhesitatingly recommend Jefferson County to any one who might be inquiring for a place to build a home, rear a family, have friends and enjoy life. And we feel that we know.

The County has never taken a backward step. It is "onward and upward." Just at present there is under construction a new and altogether modern fair grounds. This improvement has come about because of expanding needs of the farmers, ranchmen, merchants and the County as a whole to meet in the arena of display of all classes of production in Jefferson County. The buildings have been blueprinted and adopted by the County Commissioners, the County Agent, and the County Fair Board. The site is a twenty acre tract immediately east of the Waurika city limits. The site was an outright donation to Jefferson County by the Dewey Stones, long time residents of Jefferson County. This little item of public interest is submitted as visible evidence of the price and the push in Jefferson County by its citizens in every section of the county.

Other progressive plans are under way for additional growth and development in, not only Jefferson County but in a four County area. This will become a reality e'er many years pass, and possibly within the next three years. Anyway, with work, patience, and faith our people are keeping up their pace as a people who believe in "going" rather than "standing."

The most recent proof of the alertness of Waurika citizens is the recent campaign to raise \$6,000.00 in cash as Waurika's designated quota of the \$32,000.00 fund for final surveys of the proposed Waurika Reservoir on Beaver Creek. The net result of that one-day campaign was \$8,500.00 cash contribution from over 300 resident families.

OLD LANDMARKS

There are noted spots in Jefferson County which may well be mentioned and briefly de-

scribed for the service they afforded the early inhabitants. Also, to reveal to present and future citizens some of the inconveniences that prevailed and how they were met.

Approximately three miles east of Grady the "Pole Cross" on Mud Creek was the only crossing on that stream for miles up or down stream for a number of years.

In fact this crossing was there and in use long before the coming of Statehood.

This crossing was affected by the simple but laborious task of placing large logs in the creek bed, just imbedded in the water and mud, and cutting down the banks of approach.

As the Indian Territory began to grow in population this crossing became known as a land mark, that is, strangers were directed to or from a point as being so many miles in a certain direction from the "Pole Crossing."

These logs, which prevented teams and loaded wagons miring down in the mud, were frequently lashed together or anchored in some way to prevent their floating away during high waters.

Without this or some other means of crossing Mud Creek, settlers would have been without means of communication from one side of the creek to those who lived on the other side.

Another Creek Crossing of note was Rock Crossing on Beaver Creek near Ryan and about one mile up-stream from the present Rail Road Crossing just north and west of Ryan.

This crossing was affected by placing large rocks in the creek bed, and in sufficient quantity to afford safety in the crossing.

For a number of years this was the only crossing on Beaver Creek between Ryan and the area where Waurika was located in 1902. It made way for a more convenient communication between the Sugg Ranch and later the town of Sugden both of which were on the opposite side of the Beaver Creek.

Rock Crossing provided a more serious service than "Just a crossing."

In those days the waters of Beaver Creek were clear and inviting. No furrows from the marks of plows had touched the virgin soil. Therefore it afforded easy accommodations for baptismal services. Swimming parties were frequent and much enjoyed in season.

But the enterprising citizens of Ryan and Pickens County, I. T., effected a much better crossing on Beaver Creek than the "Old Rock Crossing" could ever hope to supply.

By anchoring cables on each bank of the creek they installed a cable bridge that was a marvel in its time.

It was sometimes referred to as "The Swinging Bridge." However, the vibration was there and teams of horses were somewhat nervous, especially those that were not accustomed to crossing it.

With the coming of Statehood and the better roads, steel bridges became the order of the day. Six all steel bridges, that is, all iron structures, were built in Jefferson County in 1908, thus pushing "Old Land Mark Crossings" into the distant past.

UNFORGETTABLE EVENTS

There are some experiences in human life and endeavor that are counted as "Unforgettable."

After statehood became a settled fact, the question of permanently locating the County Seat, early became an issue in a number of Oklahoma Counties.

Jefferson County was no exception. Three elections were held before the matter was definitely decided.

In the first election three towns were aspirants for the honor of being known as the Seat of County Government. These were Ryan, Sugden and Waurika. As has been already stated, Ryan had been designated by the Constitutional Convention as the County Seat until by a vote of the people the permanent location should be determined.

The first election eliminated Sugden as a contender for the site. However, there were some surprises at the strength Sugden developed in commanding an unexpected voting support.

It was an admitted fact that another election would be necessary. The very important question was, "where will Sugdens organization turn?" Would it go to Ryan or Waurika?

Sugden nestled on the shady banks of Beaver Creek half way between Ryan and Waurika.

So, a second election was called. Interest rose to a high pitch. Each of the two contestants striving to swing the Sugden voting strength in their favor.

Prejudices were aroused to such extent it reflected on the sobriety of most every voting precinct in the County.

In the ensuing election, charges and counter charges were hurled back and forth like balls on a tennis court in a championship game.

The results of this second election were contested in the courts. The court held, in effect, that so many flagrant irregularities were evidenced the entire election results were of no effect and a third election should be called.

All of this came to an end when results of the third election were sustained in a State Supreme Court decision and Waurika was declared to be the County Seat.

These unwelcome and unwholesome experiences are always better forgotten.

With the passing of forty-five years an agreeable and tranquil atmosphere has settled in the hearts of the people and a peace and harmony has existed for a long time in neighborly fellowship and dwelling together as becometh all men of good will.

RAGING WATERS

The year 1908 will be remembered by those who were living in Jefferson County at that time as "the year of high water."

At that time the Beaver and Cow Creek lowlands were in their primitive state as to the growth of trees, vines and underbrush in nature's own unrestrained habits.

There were no canals to aid in the more rapid release of unusual amounts of water from protracted heavy rain falls. Now and for many years two horse-shoe bends in Beaver Creek have been eliminated by as many canals. Thanks for this very much needed improvement must go to the administration of Mayor Earl McCraw, now deceased.

The rains came in deluge proportions in the

reaches of the upper water sheds of Red River. And from the beginning branches of Beaver Creek and Cow Creek sources the rains spilled from the banks of every tributary of these creeks through the entire reaches of Stephens and Jefferson Counties.

When we come to think carefully of the disastrous results which sometimes afflict an area, it drives us to the sober conclusions that when the forces of nature combine to assert themselves, man is well nigh helpless.

In 1908, the first year from Statehood Jefferson County and all of Southern Oklahoma saw the highest water marks ever known to this area by the White Man.

The Red River was out of banks from its sources in Texas and Oklahoma throughout its entire reach for the "Father of Waters" just short of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This added to the potential increase of floods in the Beaver and Cow Creeks water shed in that they had no outlet since Red River was forcing back water up these streams.

The result was a great area of farm lands were subjected to inundation.

Water ran from two to three feet deep down Waurika's main street.

The first floor of the American Hotel showed a water line three feet high. This hotel stood immediately west of where the Court House stands.

Rock Island track was washed out from Sugden south to a point where the old swinging cable bridge crossed Beaver Creek approximately one mile north of Ryan.

To the west of Ryan, Beaver Creek and Red River joined in pushing the water up to the railroad track at the Ryan depot.

Sugden was helpless and with other Jefferson County towns and communities was isolated for a number of days.

The "Raging Waters" were truly a fact and can not be forgotten by those who were here at that time.

TOWNS AND VILLAGES

It may prove of interest to briefly and in keeping with the information available recite something of the history of the towns and villages of the county.

After the lapse of fifty years for towns on the Oklahoma Territory side of the county; and for a much greater time for those on the Indian Territory side, such records are more or less lost in the forgotten and dusty age of records.

And in still more instances information when given from memory is subject to mistakes and errors in matters that have, in many instances, been familiar to only a few individuals; and many of them have passed from this existence and only memory of them remains instead of what some may have done.

Some will recall vividly and positively the chief incidents connected with a given affair; others will recall with just as much confidence of quite different incidents connected with the same event. Therefore, what we shall say in trying to relate the main events of the several towns and villages,

that have made the history of Jefferson County of two-fold interest, is subject to the different slants and view points. Every one has heard the old story of the two witnesses in court who swore the animal involved was black; while another two just as confidently affirmed the animal was white. It was later conclusively shown that the real color of the animal was black and white mixed.

So some see "black and some see white" in reporting a special event.

But to one and all, whoever they are and wherever they live, we gratefully acknowledge their help and wonderful cooperation in the effort to prepare this brief annual of our county and its respective communities.

ATLEE

In Wright Township on the east side of Jefferson County is the Community known as Atlee. At statehood, it was a voting box of approximately 75 or 80 voters. It was known to many people at that time as "Butcher Knife." Old timers from that area like Mr. Frank Driskell and Mr. Curt Gardner said, when asked how Atlee got the name of "Butcher Knife" there was a man living in the community who always carried a pistol and a butcher knife. So this man came to be called "Butcher Knife" and the community inherited this name that way. However, "Butcher Knife's" wife's name was Atlee. So the Post Office and village got the name from her.

There is a rather unusual bit of political history connected with Atlee in so far as Jefferson County goes. From that little village with a voting population of not more than eighty persons have come the following who have served as sheriff of the county. The second sheriff of Jefferson County was Mr. John Wright, a brother of our present fellow townsmen in Waurika, Mr. Tom Wright. Mr. John Wright came from Atlee. And Frank Driskell was John Wright's under sheriff. Driskell later was elected sheriff for Jefferson County. Still later, came Curt Gardner, and later Bill Allen both of whom were also from Atlee. Thus this village has given the county four men to serve as the sheriff of the county. A small community, as communities go but some one over there must have been a more than average politician, it would seem.

Atlee is in Wright township, named for John Wright.

GRADY

The village of Grady in Brown Township was probably one of the early, if not the very earliest, settlements in the present Jefferson County. The township was named for Joe Brown, one of the early day residents of community.

Another who was among the first in this village was W. C. Sappington to whom goes the credit of having named the village "Grady" in honor of the noted Southern orator, Henry W. Grady.

To name a few of the leaders in this community at the time of Oklahoma Statehood, many can easily recall such names as Dr. Peeler, Dr. Cranfill, Dr. George Wilton who later moved to Ryan.

W. C. Sappington was the postmaster, Jim Dunford, owned the gin and operated it for many years. W. H. (Bill) Baker, John Reed, Roe Sowell, Joe Evans, the father of Prof. Haskell Evans, Supt. of the Ringling Schools for the last eight years. In later years, W. C. Sappington was elected County Treasurer.

Then there was W. J. Chapman who was elected the first County Treasurer, and J. F. McClure one of the first board of County Commissioners, and J. W. (Jim) Biffle who was an early day sheriff of the county.

Keeping in line with the village of Atlee, Grady elected two of the first county officials at Statehood, later Mr. Biffle as sheriff thus coming within one of supplying as many county officials as Atlee.

And let it be said that each and every one of those who became county officials at Statehood rendered highly valuable service and at a time when law violations were far more frequent than at the present day. Grady may eventually pass off the map, but those who comprised the citizenship of the community and what they did will never be forgotten by those who followed and who enjoyed the fruits of their forefathers.

A NEW RAILROAD

It was thirty six years ago Waurika was enjoying a nice, spacious, and newly built Railroad Depot. In addition to this, Waurika was a division designation on the Rock Island Main Line and the yard office, together with the Round House supplied approximately 250 men with steady employment.

The Enid and Anadarko branch line furnished excellent connections in freight and passenger service to Lawton, Anadarko, and Enid and all intervening points.

Waurika had growing pains. It was perfectly natural for her citizens to dream and visualize additional expansion. With these local situations being inviting, Mr. Kell of Wichita Falls, Texas came to Waurika with a proposition to give this area another railroad outlet with hitherto untapped resources by building the Wichita Valley Railroad from Wichita Falls to Waurika, thus giving this area direct connection with all West Texas which was in the greatest expansions period of its history.

Not only would the Wichita Valley Railroad supply all these advantages but the line was to be later extended east to Ardmore, thereby connecting with the north and south railway service through Oklahoma and Texas. It was apparently feasible and altogether desirable. What was Waurika asked to do? Not too much, if all plans had been successful as hoped.

Waurika citizens contributed a cash bonus of \$20,000. The road was built. Freight and passenger trains whistled into and out of Waurika over this newly acquired line, the Round House and switch yards became as beehives in activity, payrolls increased hotels were filled to capacity, property values increased and from outward appearances, Waurika had been handed a bargain. But this "Midsummers Night's Dream" turned into a "Comedy of Errors," for every one concerned, not leaving out Mr. Kell who had been perfectly frank and sincere in all his representa-

tions. It furnished just one more convincing piece of evidence that the judgment of good and well meaning men can fail, and that well laid and altogether rational plans are subject to changing conditions and can easily "go astray."

All that is left of the Wichita Valley Rail Road is the grade and its fills which are readily discernible in many places along the highway from Waurika to Wichita Falls, Texas.

Let it be not forgotten every honest mistake stands as mute evidence that some one tried to do something.

WAR DRUMS

"And there was war in heaven; that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world, he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him," Revelation 12:7-9.

The first war to be recorded was in heaven. It was brought about by a revolution headed and led by the Devil and his followers.

This revolt preceded the creation of man and the garden in Eden. Hence Satan has been plaguing the earth from that day even unto our own.

The earth is the only realm of the Devil's influence. Human beings are his only prey. This will remain so until the end of time. Unfortunately, because of sin, the evil one has ever found men who for personal desire and selfish aggrandizement are willing to beat the drums of war for him.

This was never more true, nor more definitely illustrated than in World War I. Satan had found a willing leader in Emperor Kaiser Wilhelm who became crazed with the idea and dreams of World power. The War Drums of Germany began to "beat a charge" against all who lay in his path to world power. After he had beaten England and France to their knees, and it seemed quite apparent the United States of America would be his next nation to attack, and to aid in preserving the safety of the world from uncompromising imperialism, the United States officially entered this war April 7, 1917.

Jefferson County immediately "geared" herself for active participation. Many of her sons immediately volunteered by going to induction centers from which they went directly into training camps.

P. F. Dawson, V. C. Eaterling, and Doctor C. M. Maupin, father of Waurika's own Doctor Clinton Maupin, Jr. were the members of the draft board.

G. A. Nelson, Chas. G. Morris, J. M. Dyer, Wesley Dilley, and Guy Green constituted by appointment, the Appeal Board.

It was to this committee that any one selected for military duty had the right of appeal if such person thought he had just cause to avoid military service. The very remarkable thing about this board's activities is the unusual fact that only seven appeals were brought before the board.

Red Cross organizations were set up in every community. These communities, town and rural, vied with each other to see which could perform the most patriotically.

The women knitted socks and sweaters for the boys in training camps and in the trenches.

Just north of the Waurika Library stands that small building which was erected on the Rock Island Depot Grounds at the time of our entry into the war. From this building coffee and sandwiches were served to trainees enroute to the training camp or to those who were being sent from Jefferson County.

This service was rendered by "teams" of wives, mothers, sweethearts, and sisters of the boys who were "going over there."

Long trains of frequently twenty passenger coaches would pass loaded to capacity with inducted men from Texas, Louisiana, etc. going to Fort Sill for training. Within about two days this train would pass back through Waurika loaded with men going to points of embarkation for overseas service. The women prepared and rolled bandages by the thousands for the wounded.

At the peak of all this, there were some days when as many as four such trains would pass.

The men folks, what did they do? The men who were to help "keep the home fires burning." They did their duty. Never a murmur. Every request was cheerfully met with an "aye, aye, sir."

They bought bonds. They donated horses, cattle, hogs, even chickens to be sold, the proceeds of such sales going to the Red Cross.

Women made quilts and put them up for auction to raise money in their respective chapters for the Red Cross. In those days, the hearts of men and women were tested and tried to their uttermost depth.

Jefferson County had a population of approximately fourteen thousand five hundred people. On this basis, percentage wise, it would be close to correct to say 1850 of her sons entered some branch of service. "We are sorry to report" was a message every father, mother, wife, brother, sweetheart, or sister hoped they would never receive, but many received them. War is Satan's chief weapon to destroy the world. But when it comes right must be defended. But woe unto him by whom it cometh.

Buddy Frost was the first Jefferson County casualty of this war. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Frost and a brother to Mr. Ollie Frost, now of the Irving Community. The Buddy Frost Post of Waurika was so designated as a memorial to his supreme sacrifice.

One very unusual incident in Jefferson County's experience in this war happened just at the cessation of hostilities and which received very little attention because every one was overjoyed at the prospect for peace and had no inclination toward minor matters. As a matter of fact, very few people ever knew about it. Such an incident is so rare, it may be interesting to briefly relate it after the lapse of forty years.

A young man had been charged with trying to evade military duty by claiming his age to be under that of the military age. His age record, however was on file in the office of County Superintendent of Schools for the school years of 1915-1916-1917-1918. A U. S. Marshall went to the School Superintendent's office and asked to see those records. They progressively revealed the age of the young man through the preceding four scholastic years of his attendance. The record also showed that his age at that time made him eligible for military service. He was caused

to appear before the Federal Judge of the Federal Court at Chickasha on the charge of evading the draft. The County Superintendent as custodian of the records was called as a witness to the records. The boy's mother was a witness. She had brought the family Bible which contained the ages of the members of the family. The age of the accused son showed he was too young for military service. The Federal Attorney was exceedingly kind in his questioning of the mother, but he asked her if she had not erased the date of birth as it was at first recorded and inserted another date that would have made the son too young for army service. The mother looked down at the floor and said nothing. Then the Attorney went over to her as she sat in the witness chair and asked her again in a kindly tone of voice. "Mother is it not a fact that you made this erasure in order to keep your son out of the war?" The dear mother, her soul was torn, her body trembled, her handkerchief covered her face. Just at that moment such a firing of guns, blowing of whistles, screaming of sirens, shouting voices, was heard from the streets of Chickasha. No one in the court room stirred. The mother had not yet answered the Attorney's question. The Judge asked the Court Bailiff to go out into the street and determine the cause of the tumult. He was back in the court within five minutes which seemed like five hours, the mother still sitting with her handkerchief over her face and she continued to sob. The Court Bailiff almost shouted the news to the court. He got just inside the door and said, "Judge, the noise and shouting is coming from the thousands of people celebrating. An Armistice has been agreed. The War is over." The Judge looked toward the mother, banged the desk with his gavel and said, "The case is dismissed and Court is adjourned." That mother never had to answer the question that was tearing her heart. It looked as if most everyone in that court room shook her hand as they rejoiced at the good news.

This Armistice was officially announced from Washington November 11, 1918. The heart of America poured out its unfeigned gratitude in praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for the end of this Titanic struggle. Jefferson County had done her part both on the field of battle and on the home front.

But had it been a "War to end Wars"? We had hoped it would be end of the struggle. It proved to be only a cessation. Twenty three years later, and in even more violent form, the debacle of Pearl Harbor disturbed the world and plunged the USA into World War II.

WORLD WAR II 1941-1945

"Oh you powers that give heaven countless eyes to view men's acts!"

Navy Captain Lawrence Smith advised the National Resources Conference at its meeting in Hartford, Connecticut early in 1957, that World War II cost our country three hundred eighty three billion dollars. To express this with the dollar sign, it would read like this—\$383,000,000,000.00.

The War Lords of Europe were not content with the termination of World War I. This time

it was Hitler who carried the banner for world wide power and domination over Countries and Nations which refused to share in his imperialistic concepts of government.

In his insane effort at gaining world-wide power, he excited Japan into a state of political intoxication which induced an attack from the Oriental Dynasty upon the American fleet then lying peacefully in Pearl Harbor where she was totally unaware of any approaching or contemplated danger.

The lamentable fact is, that at the very time this disastrous act of treachery was perpetrated upon our Navy, two emissaries from Japan were in Washington, D. C. collaborating with our government, and declaring in their bland and soothing mannerisms their admiration for and loyalty to the government and people of the United States.

These Hawaiian waters had never dreamed of such an unprovoked, or a more cowardly assassination of a quiet and unsuspecting fleet of ships.

All was quiet that morning of December 7, 1941 when Japan rained a deadly fire of shot and shell on the American fleet which was anchored in our own waters and with no thought of being attacked.

The destruction of our proud Navy was complete. The loss of men was enough to stagger the American mind. It was plain, unvarnished assassination on the largest scale America had ever known. Thirteen thousand men were lost in this barbaric tragedy.

The next day, December 8, 1941 our Congress declared war on Germany and Japan.

Then, as in World War I, Oklahoma began to "buckle on her Armor" in complete co-operation with the entire U. S. A. to avenge the treacherous debacle of Pearl Harbor.

Jefferson County acquitted herself as becometh a true child of Democracy. In keeping with the National program, a Selective Service Board was set up for selecting and inducting men into the service. The personnel of this board was P. C. Largent, Chairman, C. S. Storms, Earl W. Stephens, C. N. Norman and A. C. Swinney. Of these P. C. Largent, of Waurika, Earl W. Stephens of Hastings, C. N. Norman of Ryan, and A. C. Swinney of Ringling were veterans of World War I. Three of the above named citizens served at the same time. Changes during the four years were made—thus making it necessary for five being named during the war.

The sons of fathers who had fought in World War I went proudly into the fray undaunted and unafraid. On every hand, was heard the expression, "We'll finish the work our dads had to do twenty-three years ago." One thousand three hundred sixty-four young men followed the flag of the U. S. A. from Jefferson County. Jefferson

County had a total selected service registration of 3,646 registrants.

Casualties? Yes, of 1364 who went some paid the supreme penalty. Apparently, no indisputable record of this number is available. Rather than take the risk of omitting the names of some who made the last sacrifice for their country, we deem it best to name none.

The following is a summary of the casualties Oklahoma suffered as a State.

Killed in Combat.....	960
Died in prison camp.....	30
Wounded	1291
Released from prison.....	113

TOTAL	2394
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Casualties from a few of the other states comparable to Oklahoma's population were: Oregon 1859, South Carolina 1581.

A struggle such as this can not continue always. This war was of such tremendous proportions in men and nations involved; in materials and money to prosecute the war that something, or some power must reach the limits of National ability to maintain the pace necessary to win.

France had been beaten to her knees as she had formerly been in World War I. Germany again held her in Hitler's iron grasp. Hence, the always to be remembered "Invasion of Normandy" to liberate France. It was a carnage of blood, sweat, and tears. The loss of life was appalling. This was June 6, 1944.

But the German War Machine was beginning to crack under the staggering blows of a Democracy of which Germany and Japan had said, "A Democracy such as the United States can not fight."

These two imperial champions of "One Man Rule" were being rapidly weakened. One more blow, "The Battle of the Bulge" was dealt the enemy in December 1944. The invasion of Normandy in June 1944, followed by the liberation of Belgium in the last month of the year, broke Hitler's back.

The war with Germany ended May 8, 1945. The war with Japan came to a sudden end in August 1945.

The first time in history for the unleashing of Atomic power as a war weapon was a withering reality when two of Japan's Cities were subjected to a devastating bombing that could not do less than to remind Japan of her unwarranted destruction at Pearl Harbor four years earlier. President Roosevelt was not a witness to the end of the war. He died April 12, 1945. Vice President, Harry Truman became President two and one-half hours after Roosevelt's death. Thus this struggle of the Titans came to an end.

CHAPTER II

WAURIKA



City Hall, Waurika.

Those who laid the Keel for the beginning of Waurika and who later stood at the helm and directed the course which was to determine the future of the community have long since deceased, and much of their trials, labors, failure and success have passed with them.

How interesting it would be to sit in a conference with such personalities as E. B. Ellis, P. F. (Pat) Dawson, E. J. Kelley and his older brother T. B. Kelley.

Then if such men as J. L. Morgan, H. W. Lemons, J. R. Echols, Price Caroland and a score of others could be interviewed, it would require a volume of interesting history to record their experiences in Waurika through the years of 1902 and those that have followed.

E. B. (Ed) Ellis was at Lawton in 1901 at the time of the "drawing" for claims. When one drew a number which entitled him to file on a claim, Mr. Ellis offered his service, transportation, and knowledge of the vacant claims—those quarter sections on which no one had filed. This was termed "locating" the person who had been fortunate enough to file on land.

In this, Mr. Ellis was quite proficient. In doing this, Mr. Ellis had taken note of the fact that the area where Waurika was later located gave indication of a section with a future.

He and his associates established the First National Bank in Waurika, Associated with Mr. Ellis in this was Mr. English of Lawton and the Kelley Brothers. This bank enjoyed a continued business under the same management until May 12, 1945 when it merged with the Farmers National. Mr. Ellis retired from business with this merger and lived in Waurika until his death a few years later.

The Farmers National Bank with which the First National was merged was organized by Mr. H. W. Lemons and associates. Mr. Lemons was a successful business man and a careful banker. He enjoyed and succeeded in the banking business for many years. In 1918 Mr. P. E. Waid of Hastings Oklahoma bought controlling interest

in this bank. Since the death of P. E. Waid, his son James, has been at the helm of this institution and its voyage on the financial seas has been peaceful and undisturbed. James Waid and his mother own the majority of stock.

On July 5, 1916 Charles F. Stuart and his brother, Donald Stuart purchased controlling interest in the Waurika National Bank from Wade Atkins and Ed Alexander. Mr. Atkins and Mr. Enloe from Comanche, Oklahoma secured the charter for this bank. At the time this bank changed management the following names appeared on the record as the chief stock-holders and the board of directors. Woody Stuard, Dave Bridges, W. E. (Bill) Conner, P. R. Beauty, C. R. Phelan, W. E. Alexander, W. G. Enloe, Minnis Ray and Wade Atkins. All of these men were prominent in the early days of Waurika. These ranks are unoccupied as of 1957 Not one is living unless it be Mr. Enloe. Mr. Charles F. Stuart passed away some years ago, and the control and operation of the bank is lodged with Mr. Donald Stuart and his son, Don Robert.

Thus it is, that, whereas Waurika had three banks for a number of years there are now two. These are widely and favorably known as strong and well managed institutions. In fact, Waurika has never had a bank failure, or any thing that ever remotely suggested one.



The C. R. I. and P. Railroad Depot, Waurika.



United States Post Office, Waurika.

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

The late J. L. Morgan from Missouri was among the first, if not the very first, to locate and file on land immediately within the Waurika vicinity. His claim was the quarter section which later came to be known as the Caroland farm.

Waurika was not known at that time, however, in June, 1902, Waurika's first town-lot sale was held under the auspices of the Kingfisher Improvement Company. Among many questions and suggestions in a new country, was why the name Waurika? and what does it mean? Waurika is a Choctaw Indian word meaning "clear water." At that time, Beaver Creek was a very beautiful stream of sparkling clear water. Its entire watershed had not known the share of a plough. The entire country was to be seen in its primitive state—hence clear water.

In 1903 Mr. Morgan, his wife and daughter moved into Waurika where he and H. H. Kellogg bought the town's first newspaper from Thomas Frye. This was the Waurika News, which was then approximately six months old. Later, Frank Anderson started the Waurika Democrat, a second paper. Still later these two publications merged under the title Waurika News Democrat, the present publication.

The post office at Waurika was first opened for business on July 25, 1902, C. Lincoln McGuire, postmaster. The postage on outgoing mail from July 25 to July 31 inclusive was \$6.15; but the office had no stamps for sale until July 31 when it received a supply amounting to \$30.00. Stamps sold at the office for July, August, and September, 1902 amounted to \$114.13. For his services from July 25 to September 30, 1902, the postmaster received \$85.70 including 8c for the delivery of one special delivery letter. The next three months of the same year his compensation rose to \$134.71.

On March 6, 1905, J. R. Echols became postmaster and continued in this office until April 30, 1907, when he was succeeded by the late J. L. Morgan. On January 1, 1907, the office advanced from fourth class to third class with a monthly salary of \$83.34 for the postmaster. Up until that time Waurika's political complexion was dominantly Republican. March 1, 1915, C. D. Snider—just deceased as this is being written—was appointed and took over as the first Democratic postmaster. In this capacity, Mr. Snider served eight years; then he embarked in the grocery business and when his son, George, returned from his Army service, the firm came to be known as Snider and Son. July 1, 1918, the post office advanced to second class and the postmaster's salary beginning January 1919 was \$2000.00 per year. Ollie R. Dillard became acting Postmaster October 28, 1923, and continued until March 9, 1925, when J. T. Dillard was appointed. He was followed in June 1, 1933, by Ethel N. Anderson, the present postmaster.

It gives one occasion for pause and sober reflection when a community is called to pay the final tribute of respect to two former postmasters, the third and fourth for the Waurika post office within the same two month period—May and June of 1957.

In this connection a post office was established at Lindwood, Indian Territory which was five

miles east of Waurika. No information is at hand C. W. Dodson was postmaster in years 1905 and 1906. For those two years the postal cancellations at that office amounted to \$83.06. On January 1, 1907, that office was discontinued.

Early mention of the Kingfisher Improvement as to when it was established. Records show that Company was made in this treatise. This company specialized in Townsite improvement. It was owned, operated and chartered by T. B. and E. J. Kelley and associates. They had previously developed the Kingfisher townsite. They established business in Waurika early in 1902 and held the first town-lot sale in 1902. The office of this company stood for many years on the lot adjoining the present site of Guinn's Paint Store on the North. They platted and sold the lots presently known as Waurika business district and residence lots in all of West Waurika. After this was done, the Conner and Harper Additions were platted on the east side of the railroad. These additions to Waurika proper were made possible by the removal of restrictions of Indians of less than full-blood, so the land could be purchased.

The lots were regarded as very desirable locations because the flood of 1908 proved the incidents to which lower ground was liable. It was then that Waurika started on a residential stretching and reaching for building locations that had not existed before. Elizabeth Bohanan, the owner, realized a handsome sum for her lands, which now comprise the Conner and Harper Additions. Several factors always enter into the development of a new country, but in the case of Waurika, The Kingfisher Improvement Company played no small part.

The entire area north of the early developed section of Waurika has been enjoying a progressively steady growth of new homes along the entire reaches of the Coleman Addition, the Woods Addition and all of Waurika Heights. Attractive homes are to be seen and enjoyed by those who live in them and by all who take the time to drive along North Ash, North Elm and North Pine Streets.

The Kelley Brothers, T. B. and E. J., who had been instrumental in chartering and operating the Kingfisher Improvement Company, first, in Kingfisher, Oklahoma, then in Waurika, saw the possibilities of Waurika when they purchased those high and vacant areas known as above described; but neither of them lived to see the area which ushered in all these changes. That fact does not in anyway alter the vision those two men had of Waurika's future.

Mrs. T. B. Kelley was a sister to Mrs. Dr. Maupin. Mrs. Maupin and her daughter, Nora, live in Waurika in the home where they have owned for so long. Waurika's Dr. Clinton Maupin was taken prisoner of war in the fall of Corregidor in World War II. Doctor Maupin Jr. has given many years of service to his country as a soldier, physician, surgeon, scientist and in being just a plain citizen of Waurika. In the field of Atomic Research, he has enjoyed the respect and confidence of his fellow laborers. He continues to make frequent visits to the family home where he was born in Waurika.

THE WAURIKA NEWS-DEMOCRAT

There has never been a more far-reaching influence in the history of Waurika than its news paper. This may well be said of any town, city or state. The most potent force in any community is the news paper. The most potent force in a state is to be found in the printed pages of the news papers. The founders of our nation knew this and under the leadership of Thomas Jefferson and his co-laborers, the Freedom of the Press was guaranteed by the adoption of the first amendment to the original constitution.

Waurika can justifiably point with pride to the Waurika News-Democrat. The paper within itself has many interesting facets.

One very interesting angle connected with the beginning of the newspaper business in Waurika began with a sixteen year old boy named William W. Morrison who was born at Butler, Missouri, in 1887, the son of Chas. H. and Mary Morrison. He came with his father to Kingfisher, Oklahoma for the land opening in 1901. Soon thereafter, the Morrisons went to Lawton where the father established a feed store.

As always, any boy christened William is destined to become "Bill." In 1903 Bill Morrison came to Waurika and went to work at the printers trade on the Waurika News. Thus at the age of 16, Bill Morrison became connected with the newspaper to which he was to give himself until his death in 1951.

In 1903 when he began with the Waurika News, the paper was owned by J. L. Morgan and H. H. Kellogg who had bought the paper from Tom P. Fry. In 1905 he went to North Dakota to work as a printer. J. L. Morgan wired him, "Come back, we need you." So "Billy" returned to Waurika. Then in 1908 he founded a new publication in Waurika, The Waurika Press. This new plant immediately burned. He then joined with H. O. Wright as co-publisher of Waurika Herald which later came off the press as the Waurika Democrat.

In 1910 he married Miss Margaret Wooldridge of Waurika. In September 1911, Mr. C. S. Gilkerson purchased the News and the Democrat and consolidated the two papers. Next press day the Waurika News-Democrat came from the press to greet the public. This name still holds. The News-Democrat has come to be a house-hold word to a large number of homes in Jefferson County.

Bill Morrison continued with the paper under Gilkerson's ownership until 1913 when he and W. L. Beavers bought the controlling interest which was incorporated and a new era now opened for the News-Democrat.

In 1908 Mr. C. S. Storms came to Waurika as Superintendent of the Waurika Schools. Mr. Storms was recognized as a capable teacher and as such was respected by all as a Christian Gentleman and a teacher of ability and a progressive spirit. Mr. Storms purchased the Beavers interest in the News-Democrat in 1915, but did not become active in Newspaper publishing until 1917. Then the Waurika News-Democrat came to stand on a higher and more permanent ground under the sole ownership of the two Missouri Spirits, Storms and Morrison.

This partnership continued until Bill Morrison's death Oct. 15, 1951. Thus was a partnership of 34 years brought to what seemed to their friends

a sad and untimely ending. The writer can not desist in repeating here what C. S. Storms told him relative to the sudden going of Billy Morrison. Here we quote his exact language. "Never a cross word passed between us in these 34 years as partners."

In November 1951 Donald Morrison, son of Bill Morrison, took his father's place on the News-Democrat staff at the request of Mr. Storms. In this connection he acquired an interest in his own name. Thus it came that Mrs. William Morrison, Donald's mother, and Donald himself became partners and owners with C. S. Storms.

Death again broke the ties of fellowship and partnership when it October 1953, Mr. Storms passed away. Donald Morrison purchased the Storms interest. Donald, his wife and his mother are now owners of the Waurika News-Democrat. Bill Morrison, Donald's father, was a natural born mechanic in the press room. He operated that part of the Storms-Morrison partnership. Mr. Storms was business manager. Neither encroached upon, or ever questioned the judgment of the other.

But it remained for Donald Morrison to be endowed with dual abilities. He is a mechanic and administrator combined under the same hat. And as proof of this statement, he is succeeding in the newspaper business. Therefore, Waurika's hat are off to Donald Morrison and The Waurika News-Democrat now in its 55th year.

Donald is a native son. He received his A. B. Degree in journalism from the University of Oklahoma in 1936. His wife is the former Lorene Biffle of Waurika.

There are lots of places to go and interesting heights to climb and Don is doing both in a creditable manner which is pleasing to all his friends as neighbors in Waurika and in the field of journalism.

C. S. STORMS

Waurika was favored in the beginning years by a number of Missouri citizens establishing permanent residence both within the municipal limits and adjacent farming areas. Among those who came were found professional men and women, merchants, teachers, lawyers printers, and farmers, all of whom easily became susceptible to the idea of carving a new state out of the hitherto unused potentials of Oklahoma and Indian Territory.

C. S. Storms and his wife, Arabella, were among many others who came from the "show me" State. They were convinced and became permanent citizens. They spent the rest of their lives in Waurika rearing two children here, a daughter and a son. The daughter, presently Mrs. Clarence Northcutt of Ponca City, Oklahoma, and Charles Solon Storms who is prominent in banking circles of Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Professionally, Mr. and Mrs. Storms were teachers. The Waurika schools were in need of teachers just as they arrived in 1908. Mr. Storms was employed as Superintendent of schools, Mrs. Storms accepting a place on the teaching staff. In this capacity they served eight years. Under the leadership of C. S. Storms, the Waurika High School began to assume and manifest increased progress and growth in the educational circles of the New State.

He and Mrs. Storms always gave willingly and forcefully to the two local institutions in which they were increasingly interested, the church and the schools. These two institutions supplied the compelling force of their lives.

Mr. Storms took time out for a fling at politics. He was elected State Senator from the State Senatorial District comprising Jefferson and Stephens Counties. In this body, he became a leader, having risen to the Presidency of the Senate. In this capacity he served frequently as the Governor of the State.

He was never idle at home. He was Mayor of Waurika and as such officer, he was instrumental in getting Main Street lifted out of the mud by paving it with brick. This piece of improvement was an innovation at the time it was done. Later, he managed to get East D Avenue paved with concrete to a point where the State Highway Department agreed to meet this paving.

In 1915 he purchased half interest in the Waurika News-Democrat but did not become active in the publishing business until 1917 when he and Bill Morrison became sole owners of that publication.

In his newspaper publishing, he operated the managerial end of the business leaving all of the mechanical features of the business wholly and unquestionably to Bill Morrison who was an adept mechanic. This partnership continued for 34 years when Bill Morrison passed away.

Mrs. C. S. Storms, Arabella, died in the Waurika Hospital. Their two children, Ruth Eleanor and Charles Solon were sharing their individual responsibilities as citizens of Oklahoma. And in this, may it be said, they were and still are performing a good work in an altogether worthwhile service to themselves, their forebears, and to their land and country.

Being left alone, Mr. Storms continued to carry on in his usual way for a time. Later, he married Miss Lillian Shipp of Waurika. To this union a daughter, Mary Ann, was born. All was well. All were happy. Mary Ann was growing up. C. S. Storms could be seen early every morning on his way to the "printing shop." He was an early riser.

But the unbidden, the unexpected blow came again. Mrs. Lillian Storms suddenly passed away leaving her young daughter and Mr. Storms alone. Into this breach came the two older of the Storms children. They assumed the care of Mary Ann who made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Northcutt. The son, Charles Solon always lending a helping hand.

And thus it came about that C. S. Storms was again left alone. The years of unceasing activity had taken their toll from the teacher, the statesman, the builder, the Editor and the Christian gentleman.

His business partner of 34 consecutive years which were characterized by as Mr. Storms himself expressed it to this writer, "Never a cross word between us" passed from earthly trades. Into this breach C. S. Storms requested Don Morrison, son of the deceased father and partner in the newspaper to come into the business and take over the job his father had filled so satisfactorily for so many years. Don's father, Bill Morrison passed away October 15, 1951. C. S. Storms followed him in his death October 12, 1953. Don

Morrison has since become the sole owner of the News-Democrat. This is recited in the chapter. "The News-Democrat."

WAURIKA HIGH SCHOOL

Waurika has the established policy of keeping alert to the most advanced public school system to be had. As an essential part of this policy, adequate buildings have been erected and maintained through fifty years of gradual development in educational affairs.

The most recent step taken in further pursuit of the education of the youth who may come within the Waurika school district area, was to properly equip for the newest and best approved methods of present day training. A new and more modernly appointed High School building seemed necessary. To secure this, the district voted School building bonds to an amount approximately half of the cost of a new building, the district having a cash balance on hand of approximately the remaining half.

For a good many years the high school and Junior High, were in inadequate quarters. The grounds were too limited; class rooms were insufficient; and the location was walled in on two sides by a steady stream of increasing traffic. The site of the new building is a spacious ten acre tract adjacent to the east boundary line of north-east Waurika city limits. The contract price on this building which is presently under construction of \$296,429.00. This contract was let to Haas Pollock Construction Company of Duncan, Oklahoma.

Superintendent E. O. Anderson who has been head of the Waurika school system for seven years, estimates the new building will be ready for occupancy by January 1958. "Anyway he hopes so," he says. The building will include all needed administrative offices and work room for students. Twelve class rooms will be convenient and available. A further consideration is a ladies teacher-lounge. Then a clinic for students.

Mr. Anderson describes one large room as "an all purpose room" This room has a seating capacity of 300 and includes a stage for dramatics. A band room will be available at all times. A kitchen and cafeteria with a connecting storage is another feature.

A concession room for serving light refreshments to ball teams of what ever occasion might present. Of course, there must be a gymnasium, and dressing rooms of which there are four, two for boys and two for girls. Adjacent to the Gymnasium is a coach's office.

Back of the Gymnasium is the industrial arts room. It would appear from this, that the architects overlooked nothing in the designing of this building, the over-all floor space of which is 35,000 square feet.

GUARANTY ABSTRACT COMPANY

Just north of the former location of the Waurika National Bank is displayed a sign of one of old consecutively operated business establishments in Jefferson County. It advertises the home of the subject of this story. Any description of

this business is necessarily a part of the life of its founder, Captain L. B. Upham.

The L. B. Upham family came from Wisconsin and settled at Henrietta, Clay County, Texas, in 1877, eighty years ago. Captain Upham was a Union Veteran of the Civil War and while in that service he suffered a wound that became a handicap the remainder of his life. He was naturally a jovial, well met gentleman and was possessed of a natural talent for business.

In Henrietta, he engaged in the mercantile business which proved satisfactory and profitable. He moved to Ryan, Indian Territory in 1904. In 1906, he and R. E. Schoolfield organized The Guarantee Real Estate and Abstract Company. They came to Waurika in 1912 and operated as The Guarantee Real Estate and Abstract Company until 1917. They had now been operating eleven years.

Just at this point two new members of the family became interested in the Company. These were later responsible for a change both in policy and in name of the firm. These new members were Mrs. Abbie Cargill and P. C. Largent, who had married Miss Thelma Cargill.

The first time the writer ever met P. C. Largent was when Ed V. Parsons was in the Dry Goods business in Waurika. Mr. Largent a young man away from home for just about his first time, was standing in front of the Parsons store. I thought he was a stranger in Waurika and it seemed I could detect a tinge of loneliness in his attitude. I asked him his name. Upon learning he was a son of Tom Largent of Wise County, Texas, I felt as if I had known "Cleve" for a long time. As a boy, I had played away many hours with Cleve's mother when she was probably ten or twelve years old. As a boy will come to know prominent citizens, I came to know Tom Largent. He was known to all his neighbors and friends in Wise County as a dependable and honorable citizen who voted as he prayed.

P. C. Largent and Mrs. Abbie Cargill purchased L. B. Upham's interest in the Guarantee Real Estate and Abstract business in 1917. They incorporated under the title Guaranty Abstract Company. Captain Upham returned to the Company, purchasing R. E. Schoolfield's interest. Captain Upham then became President of the newly incorporated company. He held this position until 1919 at which time he retired and Abbie Cargill became president. In this capacity she served until 1925 when she retired from business life and devoting the remainder of her life caring for her rental properties and "just being a neighbor." P. C. Largent has been president since 1925. He and Thelma were married May 15, 1917. He did a stretch in the Army during World War I. Upon his return from his army duties, he took up again his place in The Guaranty Abstract Company where he continues to enjoy a profitable business from an approving clientele.

The Captain and his companion rest side-by-side in the Cemetery of the town they adopted as the last home in Oklahoma, Waurika. Their daughter, Mrs. Abbie Cargill later married Mr. Colwell. She is probably known in Waurika as Mrs. Colwell by more friends than who remember her as Mrs. Cargill. She, too rests from her earthly labors along side her father and mother.

WAURIKA ABSTRACT COMPANY

Every permanent and continuously operated business has for it's foundation the life of some one who was willing to contribute energy and time necessary to moving the business forward, yet with that measure of patience that does not surrender to a temporary disappointment.

The Waurika Abstract Company is the result of the energy and patient effort of D. H. Stone who organized the business in 1918, and is President. D. H. (Dewey) Stone was born near Ada, Oklahoma, in 1898. Of course his first name must be Dewey because Admiral Dewey had destroyed the Spanish fort in Manila Bay on the morning of May 1, 1898. Admiral George Dewey was at once the hero of all America. More than one American son was named for him. Dewey Stone was born the following month. It would be impossible to know, but D. H. (Dewey) Stone may have been the first American son named for Admiral George Dewey.

When Mr. Stone left the scene of his nativity, he lived for a short time at Madill and Ardmore, Oklahoma, coming to Waurika in March 1918.

After he had his abstract company built up to a going and growing business, he became interested in the ranching business. His first venture in that field was in 1920.

Through the years, more than thirty of them, he has become more and more interested in Whiteface cattle and with the ranching business until he is now classed among the large ranching and land holding interest in Jefferson County.

He and his son, Richard D. Stone, own their own building in which are located the Waurika Abstract Company and the Jefferson County Abstract Company. These are two different corporations. They offer a somewhat unique service to their respective clients, as well be seen in our brief recital of the Jefferson County Abstract Company which follows.

JEFFERSON COUNTY ABSTRACT COMPANY

When Richard D. Stone graduated from the law school of Oklahoma University, it just appeared to be a "natural" for him to occupy a suite of offices in the building with his father. Richard is a Waurika boy in his own right. Again the old saying, "like father like son." Richard came forward with a diploma as evidence of his understanding of the law.

In passing, may we call attention to the fact that two such convenient situations exist in Waurika. The Guaranty Abstract Company with P. C. Largent, president, enjoys the association of P. C. Largent Jr. who is the present County Attorney of Jefferson County.

It was in 1949 when the Jefferson County Abstract Company was organized with Richard D. Stone, President. This is a distinctly separate corporation from the Waurika Abstract Company of which his father is president. Each of these corporations hold approved membership in the American Title Association established in 1907. These two companies offer a varied and dependable service to those who seek abstracts, land oans, insurance, oil and gas leases or legal advice. Accurate information is furnished to those who have occasion to need such service.

The abstract companies in Waurika are willing and fully competent to serve all who pass their way.

SERVICE CLUBS

The American civilization and social order is so constructed as to naturally suggest and promote all types of service clubs which find their outlets in the numerous branches of service commonly found in most sections of a free land.

Waurika is no exception to this. To the end they may be recognized as co-laborers in a happy and progressive community. We have invited the following contributions in order, or rather as a means of showing the appreciation of the services they respectively render. Also, to better reveal the special manner of expression of the respective clubs of the town. It is easily apparent that each organization has its own approach, but it is also apparent that all are for a general over-all betterment of society at large. A comprehensive review of some of these clubs will be enjoyed by many. And the particular way which each club employs to express itself is of interest to all.

SOROSIS CLUB

Mrs. W. H. Gresham

The Sorosis Club was organized in Waurika, Oklahoma in September 1911. Its object to promote the growth of The Waurika Public Library, to further literary culture, to encourage education, to cultivate art, to study social questions and to assist in civic betterment.

When the Sorosis Club was organized there were twenty-one charter members, there are four now living. These charter members are:

Mrs. E. B. Snider (Aletha Davis), Oklahoma City

Mrs. Garnet Bredengerd (Garnet Davis), Salina, Kansas.

Mrs. Richard Weilding, Temple, Oklahoma.

Mrs. W. H. Gresham (Mabel Hobbs), Waurika, Oklahoma.

The Club was Federated in 1919. The membership consist of thirty-five active members. They work with the Delphian Club, The Business and Professional Women's Club in canvassing Polio, Red Cross and Cancer Drives.

They observe Music Week with musical programs and invite the Federated clubs of our town as guest, also we invite guest from other towns in the County.

They also sponsor a Junior Sorosis Club with twenty-five active members, and has also given a medal each year to the outstanding High School student.

THE DELPHIAN CLUB

Alta Heacock

Waurika Delphian Club was organized in 1918 and joined the National Federation of Women's Clubs in 1919. Mrs. J. M. Dyer served as the first president, after which Mrs. F. E. Watkins became president.

Of the twenty-five charter members only the names of Mesdames C. A. Martin, C. D. Snider, J. M. Dyer, W. F. Carter and O. E. Heacock are presently on the club roster.

A cultural club, one of the main Delphia projects through the years has been a promotion for and love of the fine arts among Waurika High School students. To this end the Waurika High School Fine Arts recital, to which the public is invited, has been presented annually by the Delphian Club for the past twenty-six years.

It is an event and honor eagerly anticipated by the seniors who have proven best qualified in music and speech through their high school years and is followed by a tea and reception honoring those who have taken part.

In World War I the club adopted a French orphan who was its protegee during the war and for several years afterward. A park was also sponsored by the club which filled a community need for several years until others sponsored like projects and took over.



Historical marker for the 98th Meridian of Longitude which passes through Waurika. Sponsored and paid for by the Delphian Club. Dedicated and presented to the Oklahoma Historical Society.

One of the most recent club accomplishments was the placing of an historical marker on the 98th Meridian at the point of intersection with the Federal Highway 70 and where this Meridian bisects the City when part of it was in Oklahoma Territory and the other in old Indian Territory.

The Club has civil and public affairs committees which take part in all the cancer, polio, heart and other special fund raising campaigns as well as assisting in any City project within its scope.

The Delphians meet fortnightly from the first Friday in October until the second Friday in May of each year.

This historical marker is placed near the highway in a small beautified location. Mrs. Loyd Anderson was club president and Mrs. J. M. Dyer was highway marker chairman. This event was signally honored by the presence of the President of the State Historical Society, the Smoking Room edition, and columnist for the Daily Oklahoman, R. G. Miller, Elmer L. Fraker, Administrative Secretary of the Society and a great gathering of Waurika and Jefferson County citizens. This was in May, 1956.

This marker displays the following inscription as a reason for its being placed there under the sponsorship of the Delphian Club and with the approval of the Oklahoma Historical Society and the State Highway Commission.

WAURIKA

On 98th Meridian, West Longitude

"This is the only county seat on the 98th Meridian in Oklahoma. Townsite on west side of line was in Kiowa-Comanche Reservation opened to settlement on Aug. 6, 1901. Moneka was the post-office established in 1895 on the east of line in Pickens Co., Chickasaw Nation, Waurika post office opened June 28, 1902." Oklahoma Historical Society and State Highway Commission, 1956.

THE WAURIKA PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Waurika Public Library, the Sorosis Club project, is located in Waurika, Oklahoma, which is the County Seat of Jefferson County. It fulfills a much needed service, as it is the only public library in the county. We have a paid librarian and it is entirely locally supported.

The library is a special and permanent work of the Sorosis Club and it owns its own building. It is well equipped and the grounds are landscaped and well kept and is located across the street from the high school. It is adequate to meet the needs of our youth, and is used by them for their reference work and book reviews. It also serves all the towns in the county. We observe book week, and sometimes we have open house during book week with a book review.

Each month we buy some of the national best sellers in fiction, non fiction and books for the juvenile section. We have a memory shelf where friends place books in memory of their deceased. During the summer we use the extension service of our State library. We have 6365 books on the library shelves. We have between ninety and one hundred active patrons and between fifty and sixty books are read weekly.

The library is maintained and supported by the Sorosis Club with the assistance of Fifty Dollars a year from the City and five dollars a month rental from a small building which was given to the Library by the City. We also have a rental shelf, and collect fines.

Each year half of the Sorosis Club dimes are paid to the Waurika Public library, also once a year members of the Sorosis Club canvass the town selling memberships to the library.

The library owns a concession stand at the County Fair grounds where we sell food and soft drinks during the three day fair. We also enter a float in the County Fair parade each year.

THE WAURIKA BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB

The Waurika Business and Professional Women's Club was organized in 1924 by Miss Jeffie Thompson, who was the County's first Home Demonstration Agent. The charter was presented by Mrs. Nins S. Gould of Norman, who was State President. Mrs. Lucile Cole was the first president of the Local club.

Through the years the club has taken an active part in civic affairs. One of their many projects was the establishment of an Educational loan fund, thru which they have assisted a number of girls to complete their college education. Every loan has been repaid in full.

The public affairs committee has had charge of the parade during the county fair and has pre-

sented several of the programs for the evening entertainment of hundreds of spectators. The Education committee sponsors a dinner annually for the senior girls of the county and they have contributed repeatedly to the summer recreation program. The International Relations committee has presented a number of foreign speakers and entertainers, as well as promoting an exchange of letters and gifts to clubs of other countries.

An early slogan of the club was "Better Business Women for a Better Business World." This had been enlarged to "Training for Leadership." Mrs. Lucile Cole and Mrs. Ethel Anderson are the only charter members who are still active members of the club.

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club consists of about 3300 clubs. Founded in 1919, it now has members in all 48 states, and represents more than 700 different professions and businesses.



Waurika Garden Club.

On Saturday morning, May 20, 1941, a group of Waurika women met in the home of Mrs. Dick Coleman to organize the Waurika Garden Club. Mrs. Coleman and Mrs. Henry Johnson had requested this meeting. Mrs. Johnson was elected President, Mrs. Frank Brown, Vice President, and Mrs. W. Y. Dilley, Secretary-Treasurer.

An initial fee of 25c was adopted, monthly dues to be decided at a later date. The Waurika Garden Club was on its way and has gone many miles since.

Present at this organization were the following all of whom became first members. Mesdames Coleman, Capehart, Biffle, Brown, Dilley, Dyer, Gibson, Gresham, Goza, Johnson, Lemons, Largent, Morris Richardson and Stone.

Since that Saturday morning in May 1941, others have joined with the Club and a service of beautification has been one continuous program. Flowers have been made to grow in neglected spots where weeds had previously taken over.

One notable instance of this has been the Railroad right of way stretching from the crossing at East D Avenue south to Broadway. During the spring and on into early summer, this otherwise expanse of weeds is aglow with roses, various

shrubs and a mimosa tree that would put some of its sisters to shame in their native habitat. If this Garden Club has done nothing but plant that one tree, the organization would have been justified. A marker stands here.

Other projects have had the care and attention of this Club. One of the most recent was the marking and memorializing of "Memory Lane," the drive to the Waurika Cemetery.

Some one has said, "Show me the Cemetery of a community, and I'll tell you the kind of people who live in that community." The Garden Club made a worthy effort to plant shrubs, evergreens, at measured intervals along either side of Memory Lane. Shrubs, flowers and trees were planted. The long, lingering drouth for two years after these plantings all but obliterated the effort. We freely predict that e'er long, another effort will be made in this direction.



Waurika Garden Club's Mimosa tree.

Article III of the Club's Constitution of the Waurika Federation of Women is,

Section 1. Colors—Purple and Gold

Section 2. Flower—Rose

Section 3. Motto—In union there is strength.

In 1942, a meeting of the various study clubs of Waurika was held in the Waurika Library for the organization of a City Federation. Mrs. W. Y. Dilley was in charge as president. This general Federation of Women's clubs of Jefferson County became recognized for its ability and willingness to sponsor drives for raising the County's quota of war bonds.

The late Mrs. Donald Stuart was elected drive chairman for the Federation. One particular drive was for sale of \$75,000 E bonds, this amount being the cost of one fighter plane. These bonds were to be sold between the dates of January 22 and February 28. If the drive was successfully completed within the specified time, the plane would be named, "Jefferson County, G.F.W.C." The bond sale amounted to \$81,372 one week before the expiration date, and by February 28 the sale had climbed to \$100,000. The women won the plane.

Then came the fourth war loan drive and they helped to put that drive over in Jefferson County. America's military motto could very appropriately be, "Women Win Wars." No one can gain-say

that because they furnish the sons who take their places at the front.

The Federated Clubs of Jefferson County have demonstrated their practical services in many ways and on many occasions. So off come our hats to them.

THE WAURIKA ROTARY CLUB

This service club was organized in Waurika in 1922. The spirit of Rotary was reaching into most all sections of the United States of America and across the seas into many foreign countries. Later this movement of "He serves most serves best" encircled the globe with its fellowship.

Wesley Young Dilley was the chairman of the Waurika organization committee, and was then elected as the first President of the Club.

Of the surviving charter members, we are not informed fully after the lapse of thirty-five years. These years have harvested a greater number of the original sheaves than have survived. Among the surviving charter members are Donald Stuart, Prof. John Eischied, Earl Burge, Jim Cole, and Hugh L. Ray. There may be others.

Through these thirty-five years, this club has continued an unbroken policy of community service which has supplied not only entertainment, but it has broadcasted a social spirit of unselfishness which has been carried into every community in Jefferson County.

For several years, programs of song, music and the "good neighbor spirit" were taken to the community centers of the county. Every such program was well received by a packed house, this, we say, was without exception. Every movement that was considered beneficial to the people in helping raise the standards of our citizens, or to afford clean, wholesome entertainment always found a helping hand extended by the Rotary Club.

It so continues to this date in 1957.

THE LIONS CLUB

This service Club was organized in Waurika in 1946. While it has not existed in Waurika but eleven years, it has rendered a practical service to the community; especially to the youth of the town.

Among the charter members were J. S. Cole, R. O. Penny, Arthur Grundy, Mr. Bolenback and Willis Worley.

The club meets each Monday at noon. It is at these weekly meetings the members discuss plans and programs, and attending to any business matters which concern them and the forward movements of the community. Like clubs doing pretty much the same work are active at Ryan and Ter-ral.

The present membership roll consists of nineteen names of men representing various business establishments of the city. Don Robert Stuart of the Waurika National Bank is president. The Rev. Grant Berry is secretary.

This club originated the Summer Youth Program in Waurika. This program is designed to assist in furnishing some approved recreation for the youth of the city through the summer when there is no school. One such form is a Junior Football team.

A refreshment stand at the Football Stadium was erected and given to the Waurika High School.

Each summer the 45th Division of the National Guard spends one day and night in Camp along side Highway 81 East of Waurika. The Lions Club has adopted the plan of serving refreshments to the 45th Division while encamped in our midst.

THAT SILENT SERVANT

How many are living today who remember the old candle stick as the only source of light as the darkness settled down in the home? How many recall the little brass bowl lamp with a cap which would "snuff out" the blaze? Then came the better and much improved ornamental source of light, the glass bowl lamp with the greatly widened wick to increase the size of the kerosene flame.

Then along came a scientist who wrote his name high on the walls of civilization by giving the world the advantages of Ben Franklin's discovery as revealed and utilized in the incandescent lamp.

At one long delayed bound, the Silent Servant was at our side in the homes to supply us with that still undefined phenomenon known as electricity. This Silent Servant came to Waurika about 1904, or near that date. It was first supplied on a very limited basis by a Dallas, Texas firm. An enterprising citizen, Mr. Frank Beauman bought the little "coffee mill" plant and enlarged the capacity of production. Then Waurika had electric lights. Electric appliances? No, not for some years.

After some time, a Chicago firm bought the Frank Beauman plant and enlarged production in a much bigger way. The electric service was provided wholly by the local plant. Then about 1914, the holding company of Chicago sent a manager, Mr. A. D. Kerr to Waurika. Mr. Kerr was eager to enlarge the electric service. This he was not long in doing. However the old steam plant was still in use, and its "whistle" was the signal for fire. Any electric appliances yet? No.

The Waurika plant changed ownership again. Earle R. Ernsberger of Oklahoma City purchased a string of plants in this era, Lawton, a part of Duncan, Waurika and others, organizing the Southwestern Light and Power Company. This was approximately 1920.

In those days there was not an electric appliance in use in Waurika. One could not buy a fuse plug except from the Light and Power Company which must supply them for the continuity of service.

In 1922, J. M. Dyer became connected with the company along with A. D. Kerr and Harold Cotner. It was suggested to Mr. Kerr that we stock a few electric appliances. At first, he was dubious; did not think we could sell them. There was no law against the electric Company merchandising them; since no merchant in Waurika handled appliances. Mr. Kerr rather reluctantly gave his consent to "order a few" appliances. The first order consisted of six electric irons, two toasters and one coffee urn. J. M. Dyer and P. R. Beaty bought the first two electric irons ever sold in Waurika. These appliances did not last until we could get them displayed.

Soon a still greater change came to the electric industry and to Waurika. That was the transmission of electric power from the generating station at Lawton to Temple, Duncan, Hastings and Waurika. Electric power a plenty.

The old vacillating steam plant was shut down, the steam whistle was silenced, the roar of machinery ceased, and the Silent Servant came into the homes and business establishments of every town in Jefferson County.

Through these somewhat experimental stages the ownership of electric service in this southwest passed to The Public Service Company of Oklahoma with home offices in their five story building in Tulsa. The old Southwestern Light and Power Company became an integral part of the Public Service Company of Oklahoma.

Mr. R. K. Lane, known to many Waurikans, was for many years its President. He has recently resigned this position to become the Chairman of the Board of Directors. Mr. D. P. Tuepker succeeds Mr. Lane as President.

There are some very remarkable features about the services rendered in Waurika by this Silent Servant. One of which is the fact that through thirty-five years of service in Waurika, or any other community in this area of operation, there has never been an increase in the cost of the service; but quite to the contrary there have been many reductions in the price per kilowatt of service used.

It would require a long list of enumerated services to discover a single unit of service that has not doubled, and in many instances increased three fold above the prices of two decades ago.

Thus it is, the Silent Servant has shown the availability and dependability of the electric current.



Saint Thomas Catholic Church, Waurika.

The exact date of organization of the Saint Thomas Church in Waurika varies from 1908 to 1910. The membership participating in the organization has been absorbed by the River of Time, or have moved from Waurika and no address is available. Some of the present members

think the church was organized in 1908, while some fix it at a later date.

The same is true of the erection of the building which is of brick and which stands today presenting the same tidy appearance as of 45 or 50 years ago.

Those who constituted the first congregation of worshippers were Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Dawson, Mrs. T. B. Kelley, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. McGraw, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Walsh, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Ackerman, Mr. Metz, Mr. George Allman, Mr. Val Allman. Of these, not one is living in Waurika or Jefferson County to-day. It is known that half of this organization number is deceased.

But through the years this church has stood beckoning its members to the regular services inside its sacred confines. From this list of twelve, some of the earliest and leading business men of Waurika were to be found.



First Christian Church, Waurika.

The First Christian Church of Waurika was organized in 1908 when a protracted meeting was conducted in the First Baptist Church building on East F Street. The minister holding this meeting was from Liberty, Missouri, the former home of the Ed T. Capps and Joe Ballard families. They, with the Mose Anderson family were the prime movers and leaders in this organization. In addition to these, and assisting in the organization were Grandma Ballard, Miss Randa Ballard, and Mrs. O. E. Heacock. These constituted the initial membership in this Church. Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Altman, Mrs. John Adams, and Mrs. Wade Atkins were added to the organization later.

Sometime during the winter of 1909, a revival was conducted by Evangelist, Charles P. Murphey and what might be termed the charter membership was enlarged to forty. Of this number, only Mrs. Heacock and Mrs. Harley Ivy, the former Miss Mae Wooldridge, are all who are here now. They are still active in the affairs of the church.

The first church home was a modest frame building erected "out on the hill." This building was financed with a Thousand Dollars the forty members had raised, plus a loan which had been secured by Ed T. Capps, Joe Ballard and M. C. Fisher, signing the note. The church was somewhat handicapped for the first few years of its existence by reason of its location "out on the hill" with no sidewalks and other attendant inconveniences. Mrs. Heack says "The membership spent several weary years paying off that first mortgage."

The original building has been enlarged by additional rooms; the sanctuary has been remodeled and beautified to where it presents an altogether different and more inviting appearance. These changes are nothing new. The same is a part of most every church's experience. More beautiful buildings offering increased space for membership service and expansion.

This church is in process as of 1957 of greater building expansion. A large and well appointed educational building will have been completed e'er Waurikans read this. It is a beautiful addition to the former plant which through forty years past has been the worship home of the First Christian Church Congregation.

Much credit for the Church's continued growth is due to the late G. Lyle Smith who was the loved and respected pastor of this church for twenty years, and pastor emeritus for an ensuing twelve years. He was loved, not only by his own congregation, but by all who knew him without regard to denominational lines. Then as he became more tired from his long years of service in the gospel ministry, he gently folded his hands one night and fell asleep to be awakened by the heavenly rejoicing at the homecoming of a faithful servant.

The present pastor is the Rev. Grant Berry.



Presbyterian Church, Waurika.

The First Presbyterian Church of Waurika was organized by Revs. Lumm and McQuown with the following charter members: S. R. Johnson, Mrs. M. A. Johnson, Fred Johnson, Miss Mary E. Johnson, Miss Stella Johnson, C. A. Schirlitz, Maxey E. Johnson, Mrs. Maxey Johnson, Mrs. J. W. Dunn, Mrs. R. W. Attebery, R. W. Attebery, Mrs. D. W. Kookken, Mrs. W. J. Berry, Mrs. M. J. Moore, Mrs. B. F. Hall, Albert E. Landon, Mrs. A. E. Landon, Miss Mabel Owen, Mrs. Chas. Whitson, J. S. Lang, Mrs. J. S. Lang, Hal Lang, J. N. Stout, Mrs. J. N. Stout, Hays Dillard, and Mrs. Hays Dillard.

The following officers were elected to serve as Elders. S. R. Johnson, J. N. Stout, J. S. Lang and C. A. Schirlitz. S. R. Johnson was made ruling elder and J. N. Stout, Clerk of the Session, Protem. Mrs. Ollie Dilliard was elected Treasurer. The following were elected as Deacons, Hays

Dillard, Maxey G. Johnson and R. W. Atteberry. Hays Dillard was elected Clerk of the Church.

Rev. S. M. Hunt was called to take charge of the church. All of the above officers were installed.

Hays Dillard, Clerk of Session
Waurika, Oklahoma
Sept. 2, 1905

The above is a verbatim copy of the minutes recording the organization session of the First Presbyterian Church of Waurika as written by the the well remembered Hays Dillard as the recording clerk of the session September 2, 1905. This record by the hand of Hays Dillard in well written, neat, legible hand and is as clear as it was when written 52 years ago. It stands as a tribute to the church for a concise record which has been kept through the years.

We are grateful to Mrs. J. N. Stout for supplying this record.

The present church building was erected in 1908 as the Corner Stone so plainly reveals. The building stands today as sound, solid, and attractive as it was fifty years ago. Apparently, the half century old building has withstood storm and flood and time. But not so with the congregation. Time has thinned the membership down to the point where it has become only a shadow which preserves the memory of the past.

However, the "faithful few" still maintain services, and it is a joy to these to maintain the building in a manner which keeps it new and attractive.



First Baptist Church, Waurika.

In the early part of 1903 a small frame building was erected in the southwest corner of the

townsite near Beaver Creek. This was Waurika's first school building, and Prof. R. C. White was the first teacher. It was in this building the First Baptist Church was organized in 1904.

The Rev. Kenedy was the presiding officer in this organization. Mr. and Mrs. A. Brenneman and daughter, Myrle; Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Morgan and daughter, Vae, were among the charter members. Doubtless there were a few other charter members, but complete information is not to be obtained at this date; that information was buried when those who helped in the founding of this church passed away.

Of these whose names we do know, all were from Missouri as was the Rev. Kennedy. Mrs. W. H. Golden was an early member; C. S. Storms and wife became members in 1908. They, too, were from Missouri. The first "Church Home" was built on East F. Street on the lots now occupied by the home of Mrs. I. B. Clifton. Rev. W. F. Harris was the first pastor of this church. He was followed by Horace Bennett in 1905.

Mr. G. E. (Bob) Evans came soon after the Brennemens came to Waurika. He and Miss Myrle Brenneman were married, the Rev. Kennedy conducted the marriage ceremony. In point of age, also in point of service Mr. Evans and J. M. Dyer are the oldest living deacons of this church.

The basement of the present church building was constructed in 1924 while Thomas J. Doss was pastor. The main structure as it stands today was built when V. B. Breazeale served the church as pastor in 1952. Many improvements consisting mostly of inside finishing of Sunday School rooms, nurseries, and various incidentals have been added during the years J. Horton Myers has served as pastor. The most recent of these improvements is the air conditioning of the building above the basement.



The Nazarene Church, Waurika.

The Church of the Nazarene was organized in Waurika in 1922. Rev. C. B. Jernigan directing as presiding officer in the organizational meeting. The following named persons composed the charter members. Mrs. M. C. Pollard, Mrs. D. W. Kooken, Miss Ruth Kooken, Miss Lillian Kooken, Mrs. Way, Mrs. Mamie Dillard, daughter of Mrs. Way, Mrs. Vines, Vester Vines, Mrs. Walters, Alma Walters, Mrs. Stillwell, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. C. H. Dyer, Mrs. Guinn, John Guinn and Mrs. Winters. Of these only Mrs. M. C. Pollard is living. Reverend H. L. White was the first pastor.

For a number of years this organization worshipped in a frame building. Later, the Rev. J. B. George became the pastor. Rev. George was a pastor plus an excellent carpenter. He planned

the present Home of this Church. He performed many services aside from his pastoral duties; he did a lot of the actual labor in the building of this church; and he built the pastor's home on an adjoining lot. Both the Church and the pastor's home present a pleasing appearance. The architectural design is attractive, and when lighted inside and out for evening worship services those who pass will probably look more than once at the attractive features it presents.

Reverend Charles Stroud is the present pastor.



Methodist Church, Waurika.

Mrs. H. L. Ray is Historian of the First Methodist Church in Waurika and has been gracious enough to supply a brief history of its organization.

This body of Christian worshipers was organized and chartered in Waurika in 1904 with Rev. J. E. Martin presiding. Charter members were Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Pless, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Dishman, Mr. and Mrs. George Smith, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. Dabney, and "Aunt Tim Tucker." These six families representing eleven members with J. E. Martin, Pastor, constituted the initial Methodist Church in Waurika. It was a good beginning as evidenced by its continued operation and steady growth through the fifty-three successive years that have passed since the initial organization. Not one of the charter members lives today. Grandma Pless was the last to go.

The Church building is commodious and convenient in construction arrangement. The congregation enjoys the comforts afforded by modern heating and air conditioning equipment. The chimes ring out musically each Sunday evening. These resonant notes are wafted to every listening ear in Waurika as they voice the call to worship. They serve to remind members and non-members of the fact that a place of worship is open at the First Methodist Church.



Church of Christ, Waurika.

The Church of Christ of Waurika first assembled as a local congregation in 1907 through the efforts of W. J. Tucker, who came to Waurika from Sugden. W. J. Tucker was the grandfather of Mrs. Paul Ketchen. The church first met in the homes and buildings in Waurika and later met regularly in the court room of the old courthouse.

Some of the first ministers of the Church were John T. Lauderdale of St. Jo, Texas, J. M. Childrus of Bowie, Texas and Brother Chism from Texas.

The Church had its ups and downs through the years, but continued to grow and in the late twenties, the members started a campaign to raise funds to build a church building. A site was donated by W. D. Watson who was one of the leaders of the church. The building was built in 1929. The church continued in its growth and W. D. Watson served as elder of the church until he moved from Waurika to California and Delbert Hicks was appointed elder. P. E. Waid served as Elder until his death in 1946. The church has been growing rapidly and was out-growing its building and Delbert Hicks promoted a building fund for a new church building in the future. This building fund began to grow fast and during this time Delbert Hicks moved from Waurika to Chickasha. J. W. Prince and W. P. Murphey were appointed elders. Haskell England was minister of the church at this time and through his efforts and the efforts of the members of the church the old building was moved from the lots and construction of the new building was started in June of 1952. The building was completed in March of 1953 and the Church had its open house the first Sunday in April. The building was packed full during the entire day with local visitors and out of town visitors from many parts of Oklahoma and Texas. It is considered one of the most beautiful churches in the Southwest. It is fully air-conditioned and has beautiful church furniture and pews. It has a total membership of 140.

The present elders are Guy Fitzgerald, J. W. Prince, W. P. Murphey and James Waid.

The deacons are Darrel Curington, Jess Durrett, Clifton Edwards and Cecil Morgan.



The Texaco Service Station, Waurika.
The Boyce Johnston Building.



Coleman Building and Service Station, Waurika.

These pictures reveal some of the growth Waurika has enjoyed by the business expansion East of the railroad and the Main Street of the town.

On the east side, we find service stations, cleaning and pressing business, two of them—the Coleman Lumber Yard and the Coleman Apartments. Also, the Public Library, and The Bell Telephone office.

The Boyce Johnston building and gas service station known as the Texaco Station.

Across the street, East D. Avenue is the Coleman building and service station.

Central High School occupies the next block east.

WAURIKA THE BEGINNING—1902

Now, we shall call the roll of those who were the “beginners” of Waurika. We are not so presumptuous as to think we have named all who were “first” in the class of business set opposite their names, we think we have named those who were first, or near first. We have searched long and carefully for this information, and we now submit the most accurate list available. The class of business will appear first and the names opposite.

First Opera house.....	Gail Durham
First picture, still and silent.....	Gail Durham
Doctors in early days.....	McHenry, J. I. Derr, C. M. Maupin, W. M. Browning, D. B. Collins, Edwards, Ashinhurst, Dillard
Dry Goods.....	Ed V. Parsons, P. C. Largent, Sr., Clerk Coker Brothers

Music Teacher.....	Mesdames Leonard, Morrison, Johnston and Surface
Millinery.....	A. D. Allen, Mrs. Wiseman, and Betty Gaines
Ladies Ready to Wear.....	Ed Sessions and Betty Gaines
Haberdasher.....	Jesse Hunter
Shoe Repair Shop.....	W. C. Waldron
Electric Light Plant.....	Frank Beauman
Furniture Store.....	Walter Huddle
Public Swimming pool.....	W. H. Divers, chief promoter
Hardware dealer.....	J. N. Johnston, later H. L. Ray and J. B. Steele
Lumber yard.....	J. N. Johnston
Variety Store.....	Fred Hohler
Rooms and Board.....	Mrs. J. H. Harper
Hotels.....	The Mecca, Broadway, American, first owners or operator not available except that the American which was owned and operated by Val Allman.
Cafe.....	John L. Wooldridge, the father of Mrs. W. W. (Bill) Morrison
Blackmith shop.....	Dixon and Cotton. The shop was located just west of the present Ford Agency.
House moving.....	Ford Marks
Banks.....	Ed Ellis, first followed by H. W. Lemons where the present Farmers National is located.
Real Estate office.....	Kelley Bros., who promoted the Waurika townsite.
Barber Shop.....	Jack Reed
Jeweler and Optician.....	P. W. Denney
Laundry.....	Gibbons and Crawford
Cleaning and Pressing.....	Jack Jasper, later E. J. Osterhous
Dentist.....	Dr. W. M. Stivison
Painters.....	Divers and son
Society News Reporter.....	Alta Heacock for 38 years.

The following were not “the first” but did set records in their respective lines of service.

The first County Tax Assessor was T. B. Lev-
erett who served continuously for 20 years.

Judge E. L. Dillard served as County Judge
for more than 20 years, though not continuously.

Reverend G. Lyle Smith served as Pastor of the
First Christian Church 20 continuous years.

The first and oldest resident of Waurika is Mrs.
Walter Harper. We say she was the first resident
because she and Walter Harper were here before
Waurika arrived. She presently lives in her own
home in Waurika.

The first modern Drive-in Cafe was just re-
cently built by H. P. Klopfanstein.

The first law firm, Bridges and Vertrees.

First Drug Store, Kelley Bros.

First School Teacher, R. C. White

Electrician, Mr. Howard.

Plumbers—Joe Bredengerd, business pur-
chased by Surface and Bodenhamer in a very
early day in Waurika.

Waurika Cemetery caretaker—J. D. Huffman

who, after years of service was followed by his son, Hal Huffman.

First Modern Funeral Home was built and is still operated by Willis and Florence Worley.

City Water Superintendent, Scy Sloan

Druggist, J. M. McGraw

First Cafe giving 24 hours of day and night service—Jim Way

First rural mail carriers, D. S. Huffman, Hays Dillard, and T. N. Chandler.

Local railroad employees back in the early days when Waurika was designated as Division point, and maintained a Round House approximately

one half mile south of the present passenger depot.

Round House Superintendent, Pete Ketchen

Train Master, Mr. Sebrey

Master Mechanic, Mr. Holt

Passenger Agent, Fred Pittman

All the names listed in this Roll Call of Waurika pioneers and many more, no doubt, had some part in the beginning of Waurika 55 years ago. Without them, many results might have been far different, some better, possibly some not. So all things considered we take off our hats and stand with bowed heads and give thanks to every body for every thing.

CHAPTER III

WAURIKA PERSONALITIES

FAITHFUL SERVANTS MRS. RUBY DUNKIN

It can not be denied that in every well regulated community there are to be found those untiring souls who serve continually through the years. Not only do they serve, but they do so from the sheer joy of aiding, teaching, directing, and healing those who come within their respective spheres of activity.

Who can render better service to needy humanity than the competent and faithful physician? And just who and where is the individual who can speak the words of comfort to the hungry soul who may have become dissatisfied with life, or who has suffered the loss of loved ones, more faithfully and lovingly than the Godly minister of your religious guidance? And tell the world, if you please, what the situation might be were it not for the faithful service of competent teachers who serve for the joy of serving and who regard the salary as merely incidental.

You may very well ask, "Are there any such teachers?" The answer is YES. Plenty of them, and Waurika has enjoyed the services of such a one for forty-three years.

Before her marriage, Mrs. Ruby Dunkin was Mabel Hobbs. Her husband, Mr. Jim Dunkin, fell a victim of the dreaded scourge which accompanied the close of World War I. All Europe and the United States of America were paralyzed in the clutches of the monster known as FLU. This experience visited many of the homes in Waurika. It was under such conditions that Ruby Dunkin really discovered herself. She began to plan for a broader scope of life as she realized the increased responsibility so suddenly thrust upon her.

All of her high school years had been spent in Waurika. It was under the Superintendence of Mr. C. S. Storms she graduated from the Waurika High School.

From the beginning of her teaching career, she has never neglected an opportunity to increase her potential powers as a teacher.

Every summer she was to be found as a student in college, ever a seeker of the most desirable and approved methods and technique to be employed in the art of teaching.

Then as she would return home from a summer's work in college she came back with renewed faith in her chosen profession and with a more stabilized degree of self reliance.

When school reopened, Mrs. Dunkin was ready and eager to take up her duties toward those children entrusted to her care.

It must be quite obvious to all parents, that the mature, sincere teacher who loves children finds the greatest remuneration in knowing she has been helpful in the preparation of the hearts and minds of those who come under her guiding care for a better, fuller and useful life.

So, for more than forty years, Mrs. Ruby Dunkin has been teaching in the grades of the school from which she had formerly graduated.

The only teacher in Jefferson County who approaches Mrs. Dunkin in tenure with the schools

of the county is Miss Alma Cummins of Ringling.

Miss Cummins holds a record of thirty-seven years with Ringling School.

We are unable to find any explanation for rendering a life of service such as these have done, except it be for the joy and satisfaction to be found in service to humanity.

To all such we remove our hats and stand in humble appreciation of such service so faithfully rendered.

MISS NORA TABER

Miss Nora Taber has many years of service to her credit and outstanding events in her life which she will always treasure and remember.

One of these was "Nora Appreciation Day." Tuesday, April 16, 1957, was set aside to honor Miss Nora Taber, Jefferson County's faithful health nurse.

The highlight of the day was "This Is Your Life" program directed by Miss Ray King, a prominent and trustworthy teacher in Waurika's High School. In this program, Miss Nora was showered with gifts, flowers, words of appreciation from various friends from every part of Jefferson County.

Business men, teachers, school children and people from all walks of life expressed their love and appreciation for Miss Nora's unselfish service through the years.

One prominent fact which clearly reveals her conscientious work, and her readiness at all times to give of herself in service to the people in general and to school children in particular, is Jefferson County's No. 1 ranking in the state, percentage-wise for the number of children who have received polio vaccinations.

From Mary Lacy Snider, columnist in the Waurika News-Democrat, we quote, "Girlhood dreams do come true. At least they did for Nora Taber, County Health Nurse, whose faithful service to Jefferson County will be recognized next Tuesday." This was Nora Taber Day in Waurika. On September 14, 1926 her dream of being a nurse became more real. It was on that date she entered training at Baylor University. She graduated in May 1929. She did private duty at Baylor Hospital for several months. She then engaged herself as private nurse for a baby girl whose father was vice-president of a large chain of grocery stores. This private nursing took her with the baby's father and mother to Denver, Colo., San Antonio, Texas, Minneapolis, Minn., Kansas City, Mo. Her entire life since 1929 has been devoted to her profession. In 1947 she returned to Waurika thinking to take things easy and to retire from nursing. But the trend of her girlhood dreams was not to change so easily. The County Health Office was to open in Waurika in 1947. The County Commissioners of Jefferson County said to Miss Nora, "We need you to take charge of that office and its duties." Hence from that date until the present Miss Nora has been Jefferson County's Health Nurse.

Nora sums up her life by saying, "God gave me a job to do and I'm happy to be able to do it." "And as for Nora Taber Day, I just don't think I have earned it." But the House of Representatives of the State's Twenty-sixth Legislature thought differently. We quote from the House Journal. "House Resolution No. 570—By Bradley. A Resolution Commending Miss Nora Taber, County Health Nurse, Jefferson County, for her many fine years of active and distinguished service to the citizens of said county." Then follows the entire text of the House Resolution. Thus the State House of Representatives thought it proper and altogether fitting that such unselfish service given for so long time should be given recognition. Every person in Jefferson County will say "so be it."

Miss Nora has binders of files filled with personal letters, telegrams telling of appreciation and gratitude toward her and her unselfish life. It seems she cannot be happy unless she is doing something for some one.

And what kind of teaching was the Man of Nazareth doing when He said "I was hungry and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty and ye gave me drink; I was sick and ye visited me; I was a stranger and ye took me in; Naked and ye clothed me"? Then the Teacher of Teachers said "Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Nora Taber concluded years ago, that it is not so much her life that counts, but what she does for others is the main and urgent purpose of her unselfish heart.

THAT PRINTER OF BILL MORRISON'S

W. R. (Riley) Hogan is a native of Texas. Fifty-four years ago, he came with his parents from Texas. The family located at Cornish, Indian Territory in 1903.

Riley Hogan got his first experience as a printer working with Moses E. Harris on the Cornish Orphans Home paper. In this small beginning, he got valuable experience that was to prove helpful in later years.

When the American Circus genius, John Ringling founded the town that bears his name in this Jefferson County in 1914, Riley Hogan just moved one mile north and went to work with A. McCrory and Bill C. Woods on the Ringling Eagle. This paper continues today as an interesting weekly.

In this Ringling Eagle, our young printer gained a wider and more varied experience in the newspaper field. Just four years at Ringling, and his chosen occupation was disturbed by that World Wide rumbling of World War I. Uncle Sam's army became the printer's home until November 12, 1919. He saw service on various fields of battle. He says "France was the scene of the heaviest fighting I saw." He was severely wounded in the Argonne Forest October 24, 1918.

Upon his separation from the Army, he came to Waurika at the request of W. M. (Bill) Morrison as a member of the News Democrat staff January, 1920. At that time the News Democrat was owned by Bill Morrison and C. S. Storms. Mr. Storms was not active in the publishing of

this paper at that time, but entered one year later as editor.

During these post-war years, Riley Hogan "just kept on." He never stirred up much dust, rather, he was, and still is, of the quiet, unassuming type that thought his job was the most important job the Waurika News Democrat had to do, for how could any body put out a paper without a type-through the years since he began in January, 1920.

When asked if he had any retirement plans, he answered "Yes, when I have rounded out 40 years of service here with this paper with Bill Morrison and his son, Don, who is owner and editor. Riley talks as if he is still working for Bill Morrison and in a great sense he is.

Where is the citizen of the yesterdays who can think of The Waurika News Democrat without seeing Charley Storms, Bill Morrison and Riley Hogan?

EARL McCRAW

Earl McCraw's father and mother and other members of the family came from Mississippi to Ardmore, Indian Territory, in 1898. After a brief stay there, the family moved to a section in the area of the present Red Store on Highway 70, but this was far from a Federal Highway as 70 is known to-day. One year there, and the McCraws moved into what was then Jefferson County, Oklahoma. Mr. McCraw settled on a farm 3 miles south of Hastings where he lived until his death.

Earl McCraw was now a young man just coming into his own. He attended the Southwest Baptist College at Hastings in 1909 when J. M. Dyer was President of the school.

Mr. V. E. McCraw, a brother, lives on his farms two miles north of Waurika on State Highway 5. He is engaged in farming and stock raising at which he is quite successful.

Earl McCraw was Mayor of Waurika back thirty years ago when little thought had been given to a possible reduction of the damage and inconvenience caused the citizens by Beaver Creek's annual habit of going on a rampage by spreading her muddy waters over a considerable area of the town.

Earl McCraw reasoned after this order. This is his language "We can't stop the creek from overflowing, but we can do something to reduce the damage." and do something about it, he did.

He operated a cotton gin on the west boundary line of Waurika near Beaver Creek. One over-flow caused considerable damage to the boiler plant which provided the steam for operation of the gin. In addition to this damage, a large number of bales of cotton were damaged by being partly submerged in the murky waters.

In a study of the situation Mr. McCraw came to two conclusions. First, to clear the creek's channel from all debris which retarded the water flow. Then to cut away all under growth which was a hindrance to a quick get away of water.

This was perfectly sound engineering, but it was not enough. Just at this point where the gin was located, the Creek increases its over-flow potentials by taking the shape of a huge letter S. These two giant bends extend from the west terminal of Broadway down stream to the bridge

where highway 70 crosses the creek. To further facilitate a faster water flow, Mr. McCraw cut a giant canal from each of these bends to the main channel of the creek below. Either of these canals has a channel equal to the Main and original channel of Beaver Creek, thus providing three channels where there had been one.

Many overflows have occurred during the years since these improvements were made, but the resulting damage has been reduced by a large percent.

The brick pavement installed under the administration of Mayor Storms stopped at the location of the present postoffice. By this time, Waurika has progressed to the point of providing a public park. This is the location of the football stadium, the present Golf Course which enjoys a reputation of being one of the best anywhere around; also, the County Fair Grounds which will very soon occupy much improved quarters in a new location.

This Harmon Park was a project which Lawyer Bob Pruett was largely responsible for. He loved the idea; he planted flowers along the borders and installed play ground equipment for the younger element. In short, he secured the Harmon Park and equipped it in a creditable manner. But one thing was lacking. The street leading from the business section of the town to the entrance of this park was uninviting when it rained. The way was muddy and in an altogether unfavorable condition for travel when wet. Then Bob Pruett said to Earl McCraw "If we just had a paved street leading to the Park entrance it would be a great improvement."

Earl McCraw had not quite finished his service to Waurika. Beginning where the brick paving stopped on West Broadway, he paved the way right up to the Harmon Park entrance. That pavement is in almost perfect condition to this day.

It is therefore, proper to give credit where credit is due; and Earl McCraw has his name written in Waurika in letter that will last a long time. His name is written in concrete and in the canals which he promoted to lesson the disaster of overflows.

MR. AND MRS. WALTER HARPER

Walter Preston Harper was born in Pickens County, Alabama, January 24, 1860, the year Abraham Lincoln was first elected president and just as the clouds of Civil War were lowering over our nation. He was the son of R. B. and Mattie Harper who moved with the family of several children to Mississippi in 1865 immediately after the close of the Civil War. In Mississippi the father rented land, planted a crop of cotton which he traded for two yoke of steers and wagons and headed for Texas. The R. B. Harper family settled in Sivals Bend in Cooke County, Texas. The W. P. Harper's mother died in 1869. His father, R. B. Harper died in 1884.

When quite young, Walter Harper went out on his own initiative when in his teenage years. His native State was Alabama and in Pickens County. When he crossed Red River from Sivals Bend he discovered he was in Pickens County, Indian Territory.

In the fall of 1879 he came into what is now Jefferson County, Oklahoma. His first work was

for Emiel Morris on a ranch near Cornish, Pickens County, Indian Territory. The cattle ranch where Walter Harper had his first experience as a cow hand was letter known as the Bar 6 ranch and owned by the late J. H. (Foote) Dillard at the time of his death. The ranch has held the Dillard name through the years and is noted to-day for the high grade of cattle grown there.

From that time on, Walter Harper followed cattle trails and "round-ups." He became a professional cowhand. He went up the Chisholm Trail to Caldwell and other shipping points in Kansas a number of times. With the coming of railroads into Texas and Indian Territory, the Chisholm Trail lost its glamor and its "Get along little dogie" lost its meaning.

Walter P. Harper began entertaining other thoughts. He had arrived at the age when it seemed the best thing for him to do was to settle down in a home.

In December 1897 he and Mrs. Harper were married at Spanish Fort, Montague County, Texas. Mrs. Harper was born near Gainesville, Cooke County, Texas, and not far from Sivals Bend where the Harper family had stopped their journey from Mississippi in the ox-drawn wagons.

Mr. and Mrs. Harper came to the area in which Waurika was later built in April 1902. He built a home on the lots presently owned and occupied by the Nazarene Church. Many will remember the house. It was frame construction of lumber hauled from Ryan. A tall brick chimney with its old fashioned fireplace stood at the West end of the house.

Mrs. Harper tells how pleased she was at the new "lumber house" and the large fireplace. They had been told by an Indian that Waurika was to be built "right down there" as he pointed to the present site of Waurika. Mrs. Harper could not understand the language of the young Indian, but Mr. Harper could.

If their home was not the first in the Waurika environs, it was a close second. Mrs. Harper says "We were here to meet Waurika when it came." Mr. Harper though an "old State" man from the deep south, was a son of the great outdoors. He was a true pioneer. He died in 1937 and Mrs. Harper lives in her own home with a yard of beautiful flowers which reflect the attentive care of her hands.

She recalls with a dampened twinkle in her eyes how the cowhands used to stop and drink from her and Walter's well. Then they would water their horses. Those were days of the pioneer and will never be known to many even of the present generation. The Harper's, and all such as they, have contributed largely to our present day comforts. They helped to plant a community of three thousand population where there was nothing at their coming.

Walter Harper bought what is known on Waurika's tax rolls as the Harper Addition from its Indian owner, Elizabeth Bohanan. Hence all abstracts of the Harper Addition begin with the title the Federal government gave to Elizabeth Bohanan.

A. G. COLLINS, SR.

Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Collins, Sr. settled in Sugden, I. T. in 1903. From Alabama the entire fam-

ily came to explore the West. The family consisted of three sons and four daughters. Of these, all are living except Dr. D. B. Collins, the oldest son.

Once in Sugden, Mr. Collins bought a drug store from John Claypool for whom the community of Claypool was later named. The drug store Collins bought was soon resold. He then went to the "Big Pasture" in 1905.

The "Big Pasture" consisted of half a million acres from the Comanche reservation and had been reserved from the opening known as "The Drawing." This half million acres of primitive grass land had previously been leased to the Texas cattle baron, Dan Wagner. It was now the "Big Pasture" for A. G. Collins. He built a home and remained there two years. He then went to New Mexico where he filed on Public land in 1907. Evidently, he had seen enough of the big open spaces of the West. Too much wind; too many sand storms; too little rain; too few people for an old Alabaman. He returned to Oklahoma which before that date had assumed the place of a State of the Union. It was in 1910 that A. G. Collins, Sr. settled in the Irving Community not so far from his Sugden business where he first stopped.

Once in this new and vigorous community where life asserted its self through an alert and thriving assembly of natural born Americans, A. G. Collins found a sort of peaceful solace which satisfied his search for a new home. He began to accumulate Oklahoma land. As always in every new country, some one decided to sell and go elsewhere. A. G. Collins had done this for seven years after leaving Alabama. But now, it was different, he had found what he wanted.

And Oklahoma land was good for farming, grazing and settled by some of God's best people. His sons and daughters lived near him and Mother Collins. He died in 1931 at the age of 87. Mother Collins died in 1937 at the age of 94. All of their living children live in or near Waurika. Waurika was the home of Mother and Daddy Collins throughout the last years of their respective lives.

Among many factors which have contributed to the rapid development of Oklahoma and which have brought it into equal rank within fifty years with other States twice its age in the Union of States is the cosmopolitan make-up of its population. People from every point of the compass have contributed to the progress and wealth and every form of accomplishment possible for a state to attain.

The Collins family has done its share toward Oklahoma. Dr. D. B. Collins was a practicing physician in Jefferson County for fifty years. "I must take care of my people" was his motto. Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Collins Jr. reared six children, four boys and two girls. They gave one son who made the supreme sacrifice in World War II. John Collins is a ranchman and as such makes no small contribution to the tremendous task of feeding the world.

And so it goes. From one to another runs the threads of life which sometimes weave peculiar patterns, but which usually turn out a serviceable product. Sons and daughters of the Collins blood came from Alabama to help Oklahoma. To give this assistance they breathed into Oklahoma and

Jefferson County their own desires and best wishes.

MAE B. TALLEY

Mae B. Talley, a native of Iowa, settled at Pery, Oklahoma Territory in 1891 and lived there until the opening of the Kiowa-Comanche Country in 1901 when she registered for the drawing at Fort Sill. She was fortunate in drawing a number which entitled her to locate and file on a claim of 160 acres.

It should be kept in mind that there were far more registrants for land than there were quarter sections of land. The registrants drawing numbers within the range of quarter sections of land available were said to have drawn "lucky numbers." Mrs. Mae B. Talley drew a lucky number.

She selected and filed on land familiarly known to Waurika as the "Talley Addition." This addition lies north of the City Hall and includes the Wye made by the connecting switch between the Rock Island Main line and the Hastings-Lawton branch line. She was engaged in the hotel business in Lawton, the City of tents, while the seething masses of humanity were milling around like cattle in a corral waiting to see if they had drawn a luck number.

In the autumn of 1902 she came to Waurika to make required improvements on her claim. In 1908 she built a nice home, amidst the large shade trees immediately east of Cow Creek. When this home was completed, she returned to Iowa after her mother. To this, her mother suggested she would come if her granddaughter, Miss Mary White, would come along. And thus it was that Mae B. Talley and her mother and niece all came to be residents of Waurika in 1909.

Mrs. Talley was a familiar figure in Waurika for more than forty years. Always, a self reliant, full fledged citizen who had an independent mind and who, on occasions was not averse to express her convictions. She was an ardent advocate of good government and law and order.

She died in Waurika at the age of 88, and every one who knew her can attest the fact that these 88 years were busy ones so long as her health permitted her to be active. Her niece, Miss Mary White, being a practical nurse cared for her during her long illness of approximately eight years. In this the close tie of a becoming affection between these two was revealed in a practical manner.

In many ways, and on various occasions, this early day citizen contributed to Waurika in giving of her time, her money and her ability to cope with situations to the extent that we are enjoying much of the fruits of her life.

MARY WHITE

Mary White, daughter of L. B. White, and a niece of Mrs. Talley, was left without a mother when she was eleven years old. Her father never remarried. As she was growing up in Iowa, she had dreams of being a teacher. On occasions, she would take turns at practical nursing. In this, she was paying attention to two vital channels of service, nursing the sick; teaching the young.

In Waurika, she has been spoken of for so long, and by so many, as "Miss Mary White" that any

other form of salutation would appear somewhat awkward.

After coming to Waurika, her girlhood visions were realized in a way that seemed to be a satisfactory solution to all her aspirations back in her Iowa home.

With some preparation incident to complying with the Oklahoma school law, she was granted a teacher's certificate which entitled her to teach in Oklahoma. Her first school was Independence, a rural district six miles southwest of Waurika. For some reason, she transferred her teaching activity to Cotton County. There she taught for fifteen years. Returning to Jefferson County, she taught her last school at Asphaltum, boarding in the home of Lee Stallings, a prominent citizen and ranchman.

Eight years of teaching in Jefferson County with her fifteen years in Cotton County totaled twenty-three consecutive years in Oklahoma school rooms.

After a brief rest from teaching, again turning her attention to "practical nursing."

By this time, her aunt, Mae B. Talley, had become enfeebled and Mary White stepped back to her teen-age days when she had trained for practical nursing. For more than eight years she proved her untiring devotion by caring for her aunt.

Her last patient was the late Mrs. J. L. Morgan who passed away in 1956. She has records of every school where she taught, the name and number of the district and names of every pupil. "Miss Mary" sometimes says "I feel that I need a rest. I want some time to work if I want to, or to lay my oars aside for a while."

Memory of her services supplies her with a degree of satisfaction which is a tranquilizing reward.

THE O. E. HEACOCK FAMILY

O. E. Heacock was born in Ohio. When he was three years old his father's family moved to Iowa, the tall corn state. He and Mrs. Heacock were married in Iowa and came to Waurika, Oklahoma in 1906.

Mr. Heacock believes they can lay claim to the longest continuous residence of any present living resident in Waurika. They have been actively engaged in business in Waurika fifty-one years. Mr. Heacock's first business in Waurika was as bank cashier in the Citizen's State Bank with B. V. Cummins who later developed the Cummins Addition to Waurika. This addition lies west of Beaver Creek.

This bank was later taken over by H. W. Lemons and Oscar Heacock remained as cashier. This is presently the Farmers National Bank.

In January, 1907, he was commissioned as a Notary Public and has served in that capacity for a half century with never a break. Another continuous record for him. He has been compelled for health reasons to slow down to some extent, but he continues active to a less strenuous degree. He has developed one of the profitable pecan orchards for which Beaver Creek lands are noted. He and the "Missus" own a number of residential properties in the City and caring for these and the pecan orchard, together with keeping that

"notary seal" handy comes very near to being a full time job.

Mrs. Heacock, familiarly known to all Waurikans as Alta, is a daughter of Iowa. There, she was married to O. E. in 1904, coming to Waurika in 1906. She has held various public positions and has apparently fitted well in all of them. She, too, began as Assistant cashier in the bank with B. V. Cummins. Thence into the Waurika schools as a substitute teacher, a Sunday School teacher in the Christian Church continuously since 1909, thus hanging up a record of 48 years of service there.

But Alta did not stop with that. She will push that record up several years yet if appearances and will power mean anything. She was engaged with the News Democrat for 35 years. Her "This and That" column has appeared in this paper since 1918, and while she is not a full time member of the News Democrat staff, her column continues to appear.

She was editor of "The Oklahoma Club Woman," a state-wide publication, for six years. While doing all this, these people have found time to rear a daughter and two grand-children. The grand-children having spent a large share of their lives in the home which Oscar and Alta built and have maintained through these fifty-one years in Waurika.

Their every day exemplary lives will continue to live in the hearts of many of the present generation for the good of the entire community. Fine citizens, excellent neighbors, and a Christian atmosphere has been much of their seed-sowing. Iowa, you gave Oklahoma something very worth while when you directed the Heacocks this way.

THE C. R. CASHION FAMILY

C. R. Cashion was a true son of the Old South. For his nativity, he could lay claim to a land steeped in the lore of the Algonquines and the Objibwas, the Aborigines of the Creek and Choctaw Tribes of a more modern day, and with whom Oklahoma is so familiar.

More than one hundred years before C. R. Cashion was born the English and the French were fighting for supremacy in the Territory now embraced by Mississippi and Louisiana. Born in Mississippi amidst the sweet scented aroma of the Magnolias, his personality seemed to some how partake of the environment which surrounded his young life. A modest man he was and not averse to earning his bread in the sweat of his face.

He moved to Texas then to Indian Territory before the turn of the century. From Texas it was an easy step into the Indian Territory. At Madill, he met the companion of his remaining life. Miss Carrie Alexander was born in Knoxville, Tennessee. In 1885 she came with her parents from Sherman, Texas to Madill, I. T. where she grew up and married C. R. Cashion in 1901.

To this home six children were born, two sons and four daughters. The family came to Waurika in 1919. It was here the children all grew to maturity and found places for themselves where each one is filling an honorable place in the community where they live. Some friend has referred to this family as "The Singing Cashions." Every one seems to be peculiarly endowed with a beautiful voice. It is very doubtful if there could be found

another family of children with so much vocal ability. Mr. Ward Cashion served two terms as Tax Assessor of this county. Of this family only the mother and one daughter, Mrs. Derwood Bodenhammer presently live in Waurika.

Mrs. Bodenhammer (Ruth) has been choir director for the Baptist Church since 1943. Since her school days she has been called upon many times in the capacity of soloist. She has served as soloist at funerals in every town in Jefferson County and in every Church in Waurika. When asked if she had any idea as to the number of funerals she had contributed her services to, she said "I have no idea." But there is one thing known by all who know her. It is that, unless prevented by illness, she has willingly responded to every request. When asked if she could name the most outstanding event of her life, she replied "My life has been made up of so many types and shades that stand out in my memory, each contributing in its own way to cause me to realize the fact that I am privileged to live in an era of rapid changes new fields being explored and conquered, thus bringing us face to face with realities which hitherto have not been dreamed. Even in my short life to this good year 1957, it hardly seems the same world into which I was born."

Mrs. Bodenhammer may not have thought of it; but consciously or unconsciously, she portrayed the philosophy of her father who loved his home, his neighbors, his land and country, his Church and his God.

More than which no one can do.

WESLEY Y. DILLEY

Wesley Dilley was a precise man. He had a manner all his own, of approaching any proposition in which he was an interested participant with this motto "Anything that is worth doing at all is worth doing well." There was no wheedling about it with Wesley. He was a human precision instrument.

Possessed of a highly analytical mind, it was natural for him to consider any matter, about which there could be a question from every facet. He possessed a high degree of ability to stand firmly for that which he believed to be right without complaining at any who might not agree with him. He fought error wherever he found it, but he never fought men. Defense of a principle was characteristic of his very nature. To expose error was to him a duty.

He was active in every public matter which was calculated to affect the whole people and was at all times a willing worker. He was born in Washington, D. C. where his father was at that time an employee in the U. S. Treasury Department. Both of his parents died before he was eight years old and he went to live with an aunt at Storm Lake, Iowa. That was his home until his sister married Mr. F. E. Watkins when he made his home with them at Hawarden, Iowa, where he graduated from high school at the age of 16.

From high school, he went to Mt. Vernon, Iowa and entered Cornell College from which he graduated at the age of 20. The legal profession then attracted his attention and he enrolled in the law school of Iowa University from which he graduated two years later.

He came to Oklahoma in 1906 and engaged in

the banking business at Haskell in Muskogee County. As was his custom, he soon became a part of the Haskell community and served for a number of years as a member of the school board. Here he met and married Miss Annie Leah Floyd, a teacher in the Haskell schools.

Later, he practiced law for a time in Muskogee. Then at the request of his brother-in-law, F. E. Watkins, he and Mrs. Dilley came to Waurika in 1916. Here he began work with Watkins, assisting in the management of the large land holdings Watkins and associates had assembled in Jefferson and adjoining Counties. Following the death of Watkins, Wesley succeeded to the management of the company. Under his guiding genius, the business enlarged and prospered to proportions little dreamed of by the original founders.

When his health began to decline, he asked his grand-nephew, Milo D. Watkins Jr. to come from Florida and join with him in the operation of the company, looking to the time when he might assume its management when necessary. This, Milo Watkins Jr. did as Wesley had done working with F. E. Watkins.

Through both World Wars, Wesley acted as chairman of the American Red Cross. In this capacity, he rendered valuable service to his country through a period of twenty-five years. In all this, his time and energy was given with skill and precision down to the most minute detail—all for the men in the service and the nation and without any financial remuneration at all, except the gratitude and respect of the people.

He was a charter member of the Waurika Rotary Club and chairman of the organization committee, and was subsequently elected the Club's first president. The principles of Rotary were portrayed in his daily life as were those of his Christian fellowship.

Governor Robert S. Kerr appointed him a member of the Will Rogers Memorial Commission. This commission directed the building of the Will Rogers Memorial at Claremore, Oklahoma. He and Mrs. Dilley attended the unveiling service of this memorial. He performed many other services as his ability and willingness to serve was known throughout Oklahoma.

The Rotary International Convention was held in Vienna, Austria in 1931. He and Mrs. Dilley attended this International aggregation and in Wesley's pocket was the Duncan Rotary Club's proxy, and he thus became the authorized delegate of the Waurika and Duncan Clubs to the great international assembly.

And now, let the curtain be drawn aside for a moment to take a look at Wesley Y. Dilley as a young man. This date in his life is approximately correct as we remember his telling of his first real venture in far-away places with strange sounding names." When he was 20 or 21 years of age he satisfied his youthful ambition in part by seeing something of the old world. He went to Europe, toured England, France, Germany and Belgium on a bicycle. In a conversation with him on one occasion, he said "I pedaled through the elite sections of London and of Paris; I also saw some of the "smelly" ones but I did not tarry there."

He was unique within his own right. According to every man, the right to his own personal opinion and with charity toward all mankind and malice toward none, he carved for himself a place

in life that made him to be an honored and respected citizen by all who knew him.

DICK AND LILLIAN COLEMAN

Dick Coleman is a native Texan, Waxahachie, a city of 11,000 inhabitants, being the place of his birth. While still living in Waxahachie, our Country was plagued with the Spanish-American War, and he enlisted as an infantryman, San Antonio, Texas being the base from which he operated. Father Time has materially thinned the ranks of those who gave service in that conflict.

He came to the area now known as Jefferson County but which was known then as Pickens County, Indian Territory, in 1901, one year before there was a town-lot sale for Waurika. He engaged in various pursuits, worked on a ranch for a while, later being in a position to own a ranch in his own right a few miles east of Waurika. Always in his mind was a desire to expand. His main efforts being in the building business. He sold his ranching property and came to Waurika and built the Coleman Apartments in 1922. This building being adjacent to the Main Street of Waurika is always in demand and would be a valuable property addition to a town much larger than Waurika.

Then he established a lumber yard east of the railroad. Who would ever think of "putting in a lumber yard east of the tracks" when there were two well established lumber yards west of the railroad? Dick thought of that and did it.

The Coleman addition was opened in 1928. This addition extends east and west between the 98th Meridian and North Elm. Within this addition are some of Waurika's best homes and will soon be filled to residential capacity. Dick Coleman loves to build. Without some type of building there is little or no expanding.

In 1942 he was elected our County Representative to the State Legislature, and served the 1943-44 term of that body.

Mrs. Lillian Coleman was born at Denison, Texas. Since her marriage she and Dick have been co-laborers in deed and fact. As of the present, she is bookkeeper in the Coleman Lumber Yard. She taught school in Jefferson County for twelve years.

With the co-operation of Robert Pruett, Joe Dillard and O. E. Heacock, she was an early sponsor of Harmon Park. She points to that as one of the pleasant memories of her life.

She and Dick have one son, Jack Coleman. Jack has been honored with three terms in the State Legislature. We may well imagine that such instances as a son following his dad in the State Legislative Assembly are few, indeed, and this may be the only time this has occurred in the Oklahoma Legislature.

Jack is a veteran of World War II, having served in the Air Corps where he attained the rank of Major.

In private life today, Jack is very busily engaged in building and contracting business. He was the successful bidder on Jefferson County's new fair ground buildings.

If there was ever an instance where the son followed in the varied footsteps of his father in almost the same pattern, that of Jack Coleman is it. The father was a soldier; so was the son. The

father was a legislator; so was the son. The father was a building contractor; so is the son.

MR. AND MRS. JOE GREER

Joe Greer was born at Cleburne, Texas, and Mrs. Greer at Clarksville, Texas, and they were married in Waurika, Oklahoma. Mrs. Greer grew up at McAlester, Oklahoma. Seven children were born to this home, five of whom are living.

Joe Greer was a plain, humble, hard working citizen. All he asked was the opportunity of service. He found it in Waurika and his contribution to society was much the same as that made by hundreds and thousands—yea, millions of others such as he. He was a stalwart member of that great body known as "the working class." When assigned to a task, he did his work cheerfully and cared for the job zealously.

For such a one, it is not a matter of wonder that he worked for the Chickasha Cotton Oil Company for 23 years in succession. In this capacity, it was said of him, "You don't have to watch Joe Greer." Cotton ginning in Jefferson County suffered a decline in volume. There was a time in Waurika when there were four gins operating. You could hear the hum of the machinery far into the night. But through the years there came a fall-away. The Chickasha Cotton Oil Company was forced to reduce its man power. Then Joe Greer accepted work with the City of Waurika as Street Maintenance man. Not a foot of hard surface streets in Waurika on the day he went to work for the city. Not even a graveled street. And it did rain occasionally in those days. So it is easy to imagine the work required to keep, even the main arteries of the streets, passable at all times. But did any one ever hear Joe Greer complain? Not he, He never welched on the job.

A prominent Waurika Citizen who served long and well on the City Council says of Joe Greer, "He was honorable in all his dealings and was the first all-time street maintenance employee the City ever had." He served in this capacity for 16 years. This gave him a total of 39 years of service helping make Waurika a more desirable place in which to live.

He died in 1955. He was one of Waurika's unsung heroes. Society is so liable to over-look the desirable qualities of one's life until death removes that one, then with one accord we all say "He was a good man," or "she was a good woman."

We could wish that peoples virtues be extolled while living. It never hurt any one to tell another of the approbation he deserved.

Mrs. Greer lives in the home she and Joe built almost fifty years ago.

HUGH L. RAY

Hugh L. Ray was born in Rogersville, Alabama. He moved to Texas and settled at Poolville in Parker County in 1893. He taught in the public schools of Parker County ten years, coming to Jefferson County, Oklahoma, in 1907.

Here he decided to cast his fortune with Waurika. His first business in Waurika was a grocery store. Later he formed a partnership with Charley Phelan. Mr. Phelan was a victim of the "Flu" epidemic in 1918. Mr. Ray bought his partner's interest and conducted a profitable hardware busi-

ness until 1937 when he sold to C. O. Butler.

Hugh L. Ray's experience as a teacher had thrown him in professional contact with followers of the teaching profession. Either consciously, or unconsciously, he turned to the profession for the lady whom he selected for his life partner. He married a Weatherford, Texas, teacher.

Hugh L., as he is called by his neighbors in Waurika, knew G. Lyle Smith as he preached in Weatherford back in the days of his early ministry. G. Lyle Smith was for many happy years the Pastor of the First Christian Church in Waurika. His last years were spent here ministering as only he could to the congregation of the Christian Church.

Hugh L. Ray continues to re-live and enjoy the fact of his acquaintance in Weatherford, Texas, with G. Lyle Smith.

His father was Dr. H. L. Ray who died at Poolville, Texas in 1915. Mrs. W. E. Alexander of Waurika is a sister to Hugh L. Ray, Ernest, Andrew, Minis and John Ray. Of these four last named brothers, only Andrew is living.

Minis Ray was twice County Treasurer of Jefferson County. After his two terms in this office he entered the banking business at Temple, Oklahoma, with Charley Stuart, a brother to Don Stuart of the Waurika National Bank. In this he remained until his death.

Ernest Ray died in Springdale, Arkansas. John, oldest

And thus it came about that Alabama contributed five brothers and a sister who, through the last fifty years of Jefferson County's progress, have had a worthy and honorable part in the half century of development.

Hugh L. and Mrs. Ray are living a semi-retired life in their Waurika home enjoying their friends and neighbors and the fellowship of acquaintances made through fifty years.

GUY GREEN

If you are of the mind to do so, look at a Texas map and you will find these four counties lying approximately in a square in Central Texas, stretching themselves on both sides of the Colorado River, San Saba, Llano, Burnett and Lampasas. The Colorado River searches its way around this rugged section until it finally empties its waters into the Gulf of Mexico at Freeport just south of Galveston. The terrain of this area is mostly rough and presents to the stranger a well-nigh impassible country.

It was in Burnett County that Guy Green was born of a hardy stock of honorable ancestors. This area was his early home. His boyhood training was in keeping with the geographical environment into which he had been born. He became a part of all the early history of that era. His people were there and they assumed their undivided duties and responsibilities to life a country out of the rough and plant the seed of a law abiding and law enforcing citizenship in order to be a higher civilization.

To do this, their determination increased in strength of heart and mind as they could see a gleam of light of the better day ahead shining out of those granite mountains which furnished the

granite for the building of the Texas State Capitol and the Galveston Sea Wall.

As this torch began to shine brighter, the early day problems came to be lighter. Guy Green began to dream of the future. What should he do when it came time to decide on a career—for a career had been in his mind. This dream was somewhat delayed by a little incident with Spain.

The entrancing Island of Cuba was too near the U. S. A. for it to fall into Spanish control. Hence, the Spanish-American War. Many a Texas son rode with Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders up San Juan Hill. Guy Green was there. And any one who ever knew Guy Green knows he did his full share of any business with which he was connected.

When this little scrap with Spain was over, Cuba was free. Free—all on her own.

Following this war, Guy Green began to study law. He made a place for himself among the best lawyers of his day and time. In 1901 he married Miss Mattie Wofford of Athens, Texas. To his union were born two daughters, Mary Louise and Rebecca. Mary Louise married E. E. Neptune of Lawton, Oklahoma. Two sons claimed a home with them. Dr. William Neptune, a teacher in Oklahoma Baptist University at Shawnee, Oklahoma, and Richard Neptune, the younger of the two sons, is engaged with the Lawton High School where he teaches professional photography. Rebecca Green married George Butts of Comanche, Oklahoma, where they have lived during their married life.

Guy Green was a home loving man. The joy and pride of his life was his family and the Grand children.

He came with his wife and two daughters to Ryan, Oklahoma, in 1908. There he formed a law partnership with Cham Jones.

In the three elections to finally determine whether Ryan was to retain County Seat honors, or Waurika was to become the permanent County Seat, Guy Green fought the case for Ryan through all the Courts. And he was skilled in all the tactful maneuvers known to the legal profession. When the matter was finally adjusted, the lawyers for Waurika went to Guy Green and said, "Well, Guy, you waged an honest fight. You have been open and honorable through it all." What more could be said of any man?

He knew his mind and when once made up on what he thought to be the right basis, he never failed to speak out so he could be understood. He was no "straddler." He had his convictions and he would defend them by all honorable means. He was once heard to say "I'm like the Colorado River where I grew up. If I can't get by this side of a mountain. I'll go around the other side."

He came with his family to Waurika in 1912. Here he lived, practiced law, moved about as any common citizen. Loyalty to his Church was a passion with him.

There was just one of his exact type; but his type, if you please, was what our state and nation needs more of to-day. He was no vacillating "sis-sy." His character was of the strength of the granite hills of his birth place in Texas. He died at his home in Waurika, December 15, 1945. Mrs. Green lives in the home they established in Waurika in 1912.

SAM ASH

Go where you will, look whither you may; you will not have to camp long in any one community until you become attracted in some manner to that happy, good natured character who pulls at you as the magnet attracts particles of steel filings. Such a one is Sam Ash and, while doing so, he is entirely unconscious of his drawing powers.

He was born in Clay County, North Carolina, migrated from there to Sweetwater, Nolan County, Texas, in 1888. That was really and truly "Way out west" in those days. The County was not organized until 1881. His family made the move from North Carolina to Texas in two covered wagons.

There remained another move for Sam, then he was to "settle down" for awhile. The Indian Territory offered opportunities to any one in whose blood flowed the feeling of adventure. The family selected Terral, the last village on the Rock Island Railroad before it bridged Red River into Texas. The father and mother immediately fell in line with the new community. They purchased a home, remodeled it, built onto it, and opened hotel accommodations to the general public. This was 1895. The Rock Island had reached Terral in 1892. The father died at Terral and the mother died years later at Vernon, Texas, where she had gone to visit a daughter.

In the mean time, Sam took to that great American business called "railroading." The greatest and most rapid empire building agency in the world. This was in 1896. Forty three years ago, it was, when Sam Ash was a recruit in the railroad army. It would require the services of a psychoanalyst to explain why the seasoned railroaders are the generous, big hearted fellows they are. And one who is not is the exception. Sam Ash developed into such a man. He was probably by nature, but it was magnified and grew and grew into his life.

Sam retired from the railroad business in 1941. He is now resting on his oars in his home near the railroad for which he worked more than half his life. He can tell a good joke on his friend, and he can take it if they try to "come back on him" is the way he expresses it.

He has been twice married. The writer has known him so long and has shared in his jokes so many times that—I have said to him, "Sam, you came very near to being the eighth wonder of the world."

He is loyal to his home, his friends, his town, and his church. A life long Democrat, he jokes his Republican friends in a great way many times, and all know just what he means. Sam Ash, the citizen, will be missed from Waurika when he can no longer make his appearance upon the street. He and Mrs. Ash maintain a large home, spacious ground ablaze in the spring and early summer with a vast assortment of beautiful flowers. And where did he build that home? Within a stone's throw of the Rock Island Railroad, of course.

J. N. STOUT

J. N. Stout migrated from Tennessee to Johnson County, Texas in 1891. Near the town of Burleson, he found what appeared to him as a goodly land approximately half way between Cle-

burne, the County seat, and Fort Worth, Texas.

In 1892, Mrs. Stout came with her parents from Tennessee. At that time, Mr. Stout was unmarried, but he and Mrs. Stout had known each other back in sunny Tennessee, and they found that love and sunshine were the same in Texas as in Tennessee. They were married in 1895. After seven years of life together in Texas, they came to Oklahoma Territory in 1902. Mr. Stout purchased a relinquishment on Southwest Quarter of Section Four, Township Five South, Range Eight West, immediately southwest of Waurika.

J. N. Stout was then, and still is, a man who knew what he wanted to do and proceeded to do it. He gradually made improvements he deemed necessary until he had a model and comfortable home. And in this home, he, Mrs. Stout and son, Loy, lived, farmed, raised cattle, horses and "blue ribbon" mules for fifty years.

In 1945, he sold the original claim on which he had bought the relinquishment, together with adjoining land he had purchased and moved into Waurika where they presently reside on East C Avenue.

While living on the farm Mr. Stout had a somewhat unique experience in that he attended Court at three different County seats. The claim he bought was originally in Comanche County. O. T. He did Court duty at Lawton, County Seat of Comanche County. Then when Statehood came in 1907, and Jefferson County became a unit of the State, he did court attendance at Ryan, the designated County Seat until otherwise determined. Later, when Waurika became the county seat, his court services were at Waurika.

He and another man took the first two bales of cotton to Sugden to be ginned from west of the 98th Meridian.

Mr. and Mrs. Stout are quietly resting and living in their home on East C Avenue. Their long and sometimes arduous labors have taken their toll of physical endurance.

W. H. GRESHAM

W. H. Gresham came to Waurika in 1910. He grew to young manhood at Cleburne, Texas. There was a sort of indescribable feeling entered into his life that prompted him to a firmer dependence upon himself and the call of a new country appealed to him. Waurika was eight years old at that time. It was on the main line of the C.R.I.&P. Railroad, and it had possibilities that appealed to Henry Gresham.

His first work in Waurika was for Kelley Bros. at \$10.00 per week. Later, he bought a half interest in The Jefferson County Abstract Company with W. F. Carter. This was later sold, and since the automobile had made its appearance in Waurika and Jefferson County, Mr. Gresham built the first gas and oil service station in Jefferson County. This is still known as the "Gresham Station" and remains in the family.

He served as a member of the City Council for thirty-five years, was twice designated Mayor of Waurika and has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce since the beginning of that organization in Waurika. His services have always been freely given to the town and community he adopted as a young man forty-seven years ago.

His business trained mind gave the City the same degree of good management and business prudence that he gave his personal business. He says about his "filling station" business, "It has always made money by careful management and operation." Prudence, he says, is just practical common sense, taking the trouble to think out what you are doing and weighing the probable results.

Henry Gresham is one of the largest property owners in Waurika. He understands what he terms "sensible management and fair dealing." He believes that one's life should be so ordered as to command the respectful attention of observers. While he was a City Councilman, he joined in employing Mr. Joe Greer as the first full-time maintenance employee. Joe Greer will be remembered by most of our citizens to-day. Mr. Gresham said of him, "He gave the City honest service at not too large salary."

By the rule of economics, only a faithful servant can render faithful service. Henry Gresham has rendered his town, his county and Oklahoma some very worthwhile and permanent services. Not the least of which is the rearing by himself and Mrs. Gresham their children in a Christian home. And these have gone out into the business world to continue to spread the doctrine of good will, helpfulness and right living.

Mr. Gresham has not enjoyed good health for the last two or three years. He is compelled to spend his time at home. He enjoys reading and keeps himself posted on all the leading events of the day. He is fully alert to all that is going on in the State and National affairs and will frankly tell you he does not approve all of it. He will tell you that Governments are like individuals—they make mistakes. Gresham, like all others will not last forever, but Gresham, the citizen in Waurika will be remembered a long time by all who have known him.

HARLEY IVY

Harley Ivy was born at Corsicana, Texas, and came to Oklahoma Territory with his father when he was thirteen years old. His mother died in 1900. His first schooling was at Keene, Texas. His first attendance at school in Oklahoma was in a rural district at Mountain Home which was approximately two miles west and three miles south of Hastings.

In 1909 he was in school in Waurika when C. S. Storms was the Superintendent. Here he graduated from High School in 1913.

Oklahoma University was beckoning him, he responded to the urge of completing his education, so to the University he went. Harley Ivy was not afraid of hard work. He feared no task that seemed of importance to him. He had faced difficult task most of his boyhood days, now as a young man, his motto was "If it is best and if I feel I should, I'll try."

When he had earned his B. A. from Oklahoma University, he returned to Waurika as High School principal in the term of 1917-1918. From this position, he went to Hastings as Superintendent of the Hastings school, for the school year 1918-1919.

He was induced to offer himself as a candidate for County Treasurer. To this office he was elected and assumed the duties of office in 1919.

This position was not altogether to his liking. All the time he was dreaming of Law School at Oklahoma University. He resigned as County Treasurer and back to Oklahoma University he went as a student of law. He completed his law course there in 1923.

In 1917 he married Miss Mae Wooldridge of Waurika. Three sons and two daughters were born to this union. Each of these has graduated from their father's Alma Mater with the degree of their own choosing—the daughters in music, the sons in law.

The father has been a practicing attorney in Waurika for 33 years. The sons have been associated with their father since their graduation from the School of law. "Like father, like son." The law firm of "Ivy, Ivy and Ivy" is well and favorably known throughout all Southern Oklahoma.

As of the present, the junior member of the firm, Red Ivy is the County Attorney of Jefferson County having been appointed to this position to fill a vacancy in that office. Since a lad Harley Ivy has given of himself in some manner of service to Jefferson County. His persistence in pursuit of his desire for an education is within itself sufficient evidence of his lofty ambition and sterling worth as a citizen and community builder. Oklahoma has been made better and Jefferson County is on a higher plane because of what Harley Ivy's life among us has meant.

TOM SIMS

The Daddy and Mother Sims family came from Alabama to Texas where they lived for a few years. In 1887 they removed from Texas and settled in Indian Territory near Ardmore. There Tom was born. To Daddy and Mother Sims nine children were born. Of these, eight are living. The Sims was first known in Waurika on Thanksgiving Day in 1913.

Tom and his brother, Otway, entered the grocery business in Waurika, December 1, 1913. The firm continued for a number of years as Sims Brothers Grocery and Market. The writer of this story bought his first bill of groceries in Waurika May 1, 1914. Mr. Toway Sims was the "outside" man when any business other than selling groceries came up.

The business prospered. The service Sims Bros. gave the public was good enough. Tom says, "The years rocked along and Otway was more than ever the land man and on the outside." He enjoyed an out-door life.

By mutual agreement the partnership was dissolved, land holdings were divided and Tom became sole owner of the grocery and market. No more quiet, peaceable and altogether satisfactory partnership dissolution could be brought about. Up to this point, and for a good many years after, the Sims Grocery and Market continued at the same stand. The present Elkins Grocery and Market occupies the former location of Sims Grocery and Market.

The present Sims Grocery and Market occupies the east half of the Coleman Building. Tom is not positively sure, but he believes he is the oldest continually active merchant living in Waurika. He enjoys a span of forty-four years from his beginning in 1913 to 1957. His father, who was

known to all his Waurika friends as "Daddy Sims" died in 1942 at the age of 97. Mother Sims passed away some years later and they rest side-by-side in the Waurika Cemetery.

Any business man will make many tracks in 44 years. The interesting thing about Tom Sims is the fact he is still "making tracks." It seems his pace never slackens. He entertains no ill will toward anyone.

He continues an active member in the Waurika Rotary Club and, as its President attended the International Rotary Convention in company with Mrs. Sims and Mr. and Mrs. Denney at Atlantic City.

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LOUESTA SPRADLING CAPPS

Down where "Ole Man River Just Keeps Rollin' Along" at Lafayette Springs, Mississippi, Louesta Spradling was born. She came with her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Spradling to Cornish, Indian Territory in 1906. Two brothers and a sister with Louesta comprised the family circle around this father and mother.

She taught in the public schools of Jefferson County four years, came to Waurika in 1921 and married Edward W. Capps, son of Edward T. Capps, an early day citizen of the Waurika Area. Edward Capps, her husband, died in 1935. It was then she took work in the Waurika Post Office where she continues daily at her window giving service to the public. For twenty-two years she has extended a smile as she serves as one of Uncle Sam's Army of Postal Employees.

"Tis the spirit in which the gift is rich
As the gifts of the Wise Men were.

And we are not told whose gift was the gold
Or whose was the gift of Myrrh."

—Benjamin Franklin Taylor.

She cared for and nursed her mother-in-law, the widow of a pioneer citizen of Jefferson County, through her last years and lingering illness. Her home was home to the mother of her husband.

Then, in more recent years her father, D. F. Spradling became enfeebled and ill. Louesta explained to him and to her mother that she could take much better care of them if they would come into her home. This they did. And in her home with her mother's help she attended her father until his death in June 1938. Thus passed a son of the deep South.

Her mother continued to live with her. Any one who has been privileged to have known, personally, Louesta's mother would doubtless recognize the fountain head of the daughter's patience and kindly attitude toward people. The years came and passed into history. One day her mother fell ill. This proved to be her last illness. Again the filial love of Louesta Spradling Capps manifested itself in its unfailing constance.

After her mother's death, and as if she had not done enough, she cast about for some boy or girl or family she thought to invite to Sunday School and Church. Frequently the reply to these invitations would be to the effect they did not have proper clothing to wear to attend church, or for the children to attend Sunday School. Her spirit would rise to the need of the situation. Many times she has provided for those who said they could not afford to buy clothes.

Her life has to a large extent been a "give away." Not stintingly or for show. Her numerous philanthropies are never known except to a few personal friends of whom she may request some advice or suggestion.

Her personal family consists of three girls and one boy, all of whom are out and doing for themselves, and it may be said are satisfactorily successful in their chosen fields.

When we come to think seriously of life, do we not read of a lowly man who gave his life freely and voluntarily to redeem a world of lost humanity? YES, WE REMEMBER.

CHARLES R. TABER

Charles R. Taber began a career in the postal service November 15, 1919. In this he was entering upon a channel of public service which developed into a profession which he has carefully and diligently pursued down through the years.

On November 15, 1957, he will have completed 38 years of uninterrupted service in the Waurika post office. That these years have been given to a tenure of satisfactory service, is abundantly attested by his steady advancement and by the absence of any criticism from the constituency served.

His close attention to duty, added to his cheerful service, has earned for him the present position to which he has attained, that of Assistant Post Master.

The ladder of promotion does not come down to a public servant, but he must climb up to it, and in this climbing, he is forced to dig his own footholds. This Charles Taber has done in an entirely worthy manner.

In the years he has been privileged to serve, his friends and his family have shared the joys of his advancement as they have watched him carve a place in the service and in Waurika where he is known by the entire population.

He married Miss Edna Mitchell, December, 1921. Within a few months, he and Edna were happily domiciled in a new home, all their own. With additions to enable them to the better provide for theirs and themselves, the home is as they built it upon their marriage. Service as a dependable postal employee is far from being all the story.

Charles and Edna adopted and reared two homeless children, Sandra and Richard. Sandra was an infant, and in this home she found a refuge with fatherly and motherly love and care. She is now married and happily living in Addington. While she and Richard were not related in any way, they came up in this home as normal children all together as a typical American family. Richard is living in Oklahoma City. This is humanitarian service which Charles and Edna have rendered from the heart's desire to serve those who were less fortunate.

A noted educator of the Deep South once requested time to appear before a great religious convention to present the needs of the college of which he was president. He was granted a limited time. In his speech he made use of these meaningful words which won for him the gratitude and applause of a nation-wide convention. The exact

language follows. "The test of any civilization is its willingness to lend a helping hand to those who are less fortunate." This is the spirit which makes America great. This spirit must live and grow in the human heart before it can be transplanted into the hearts of others.

Charles and Edna Taber have thus amply demonstrated the workings of such spirit in their hearts.

LOY H. STOUT

Loy H. Stout came from Texas with his parents and settled on a claim in Oklahoma Territory in 1902. Oklahoma Territory at that particular time was less than a year old, and Loy was five. His parents Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Stout, were of the Texas pioneer stock and were not unfamiliar with the hardships and labor incident to developing a new country. Their son Loy is a clean-cut descendent of this stock.

Frugal, not afraid of work, taking time to measure all the costs involved in a new venture, and given to the practice of good management and, a loyalty to, and a trust in God. All of which has been adopted by Loy as he grew to manhood on the farm four miles southwest of Waurika.

World War I called for men. Loy donned the uniform of the U. S. Navy. Upon returning to civilian life, he easily fitted himself back into the farm life to which he had been accustomed before the war.

He decided the U. S. postal service offered dependable employment at a satisfactory remuneration. He was willing to give his best and be content with the results. When all the red tape had been measured, he began work in the Waurika postoffice as inside clerk, part time, and City delivery, on September 23, 1924. In this position he continued until April 1, 1929, when he entered upon full time city delivery.

The amount of mail for delivery to the patron's door those days was small as compared with its present day volume.

In this work he began a career of public service under the administration of President Hoover, followed by Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry Truman and now Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Through these years Ollie R. Dillard, Joe T. Dillard and presently, Ethel Anderson have served as those responsible for the operation of the Waurika Postoffice.

Of these, Ethel Anderson has served the longest tenure of any of Waurika's postmasters.

In these thirty-three years of service, he has never failed to supply the patrons with a high degree of faithful, courteous treatment which has been the channel through which he has become far more than a "mail carrier." He has grown himself a place of appreciation and respect in the hearts of the people whom he serves.

From door to door in heat and cold; sunshine and rain, his motto clearly that of the stage coach days "The mail must get through." He estimates that in doing this, he has walked 165,000 miles, but he did not walk empty handed. He carried a load of mail with him. It has been conservatively estimated that in these thirty-three years he has carried a total of near one million pounds of mail. And he is still going with no apparent slackening.

E. B. AND ETHEL ANDERSON

E. B. and Ethel Anderson were students in the Law School of Oklahoma University before their marriage. In this respect, their lives paralleled in their preparation for legal profession. They met in the class room and graduated in the same class. In their class rooms they met and became acquainted with a young man named Jed Johnson, who later served in the Federal Congress from this Congressional District. He was the youngest and served as our Congressman the longest of any one who has served this district to the present date. When he was defeated, Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed him to a Judgeship on the Court of Claims where he still serves.

E. B. (Ed) Anderson came to Waurika in June 1917. The following day was Registration Day for military duty. Uncle Sam was calling for men to help in stopping the mad man of Germany, Emperor Wilhelm, the Kaiser. E. B. Anderson registered. His call came in 1918. He saw overseas service as a citizen of Waurika. At the end of the war he returned to Waurika. He soon found his place back in civilian life and began, anew his law practice. He has served at length as City Attorney, also as Assistant County Attorney.

He is a safe, conservative counsellor. He and Ethel have raised three children in their home, two boys and a girl. These they have educated. One of the boys is now a college graduate and the other will finish in 1958.

Ed Anderson has proved himself a good soldier for his country; a good citizen loyal to his friends and his church, and a good father. If I were to attempt an analysis of Ed Anderson's personal temperament and characteristics, I think I would conclude the report by saying he is a close observer and lives by the Cardinal Virtues namely, prudence, temperance, justice and fortitude.

There is just one thing that finally succeeds and that is doing right. In so far as this writer has observed in forty years of acquaintance, Ed Anderson, has done this.

Ethel Anderson was born in Buffalo, New York, lived for a while in Pennsylvania, then came to Bartlesville, Oklahoma, in 1908. She graduated from the School of Law in Oklahoma University in 1918 and came with her mother, Mrs. Adams, to Waurika in 1920. She practiced in the Courts of Oklahoma and served two years in Jefferson County as Court Reporter. She was elected to membership in The Order of the Coif, an Honorary Legal Fraternity. She was appointed Post Master in Waurika, June 1933. In this position, she has served twenty-four years.

Two years after she came to Waurika her mother came to live with her. Mrs. Adams was a business type and was in no way opposed to work. Once in Waurika, she opened her Beauty Parlor. In this profession she was an adept. Every customer was her friend and friends with her were not at all scarce. This profession she followed for nine years, retiring only when she was physically unable to carry on. She was affectionately known as "Mother Adams" and there were many sad hearts in Waurika when it was learned she had peacefully slipped away at her home with Ed and Ethel.

Mother Adams was a harmonizer of discord; a

sort of silencer of critics; and an equalizer of inequalities. All will agree that we need a lot of her kind today.

W. J. JOHNSTON

W. J. Johnston, a pioneer of the "Old South", and father of our fellow citizen, W. D. Johnston, hails from Sunny Tennessee. W. D. Johnston, in turn, is the father of two of Waurika's leading business men, Boyce and Ivan Johnston; also of Henry Johnston of Springdale, Arkansas, and Mrs. Ruth Pryor of Kelso, Washington.

In an early day, W. J. Johnston left his native state and went to Texas, as many before him had done. After a few years in Texas, he became attracted by reports from the Indian Territory which were carried back to Texas by those who had been north of Red River for a personal investigation of the vivid reports of "free grass" and good hunting.

W. J. Johnston's next change was to the Indian Territory about which he had heard so much. He settled in a village then known as "Butcher Knife", which was a cognomen for Atlee. If you were to go today in search of the exact location of Atlee of fifty or sixty years ago, you would not be able to locate it without the assistance of some present day citizen.

But when Mr. Johnston settled there, Atlee was a wide awake village of stores, shops, a livery barn where one could rent a team of horses and a driver to take him to other points. W. D. Johnston well remembers when he paid a livery driver \$3.00 to take him across country to Ryan.

When Mr. Johnston made himself at home in Atlee, he soon became recognized as a law abiding man who was willing to insist that all citizens should obey and respect the law. For the reader's information we might state that while the Indian Territory had no power to legislate laws to govern the civilized tribes, other than their peculiar tribal laws, the civil and criminal laws of Arkansas had been made applicable to the Indian Territory by the Federal Government with court jurisdiction at Fort Smith, Arkansas, and later at Ryan, Indian Territory. This held true until Oklahoma Statehood when all vestige of Federal Government disappeared. There are plenty of folks still living who will remember the name "Judge Parker" at Fort Smith, who hanged convicted murderers by the dozens.

When W. J. Johnston, the Tennessean, settled at Atlee, there was good reason to have someone as a guardian of the rights of the people. He became that man; he insisted on a law and order program; and in a largely improved way, he got it. From this community have come four of Jefferson County's Sheriffs. Their names have been listed in a previous chapter on Jefferson County.

Immediately following statehood, W. J. Johnston moved across the 98th Meridian and lived for a time on the place which later came to be known as "The Dent Countiss" farm.

From here he made one more change. He purchased a farm farther west in the community known now as the Irving Community. There he died in 1925. But he had impressed himself and his ideals for good citizenship on every community of which he had been a part.

His worthy son, W. D. Johnston has done as

much. Let us not forget that our illustrious forefathers made the paths leading to better government, better schools, better living all the more easy for us. And today we are walking on the roads which they made smooth. Otherwise, there could be no progress in civilization. Our lesson then, is shall we leave the world better because we passed this way? A noted American educator once said "The test of any civilization is its willingness to lend a helping hand to those less fortunate."

Through four generations of the Johnstons of this chapter they have striven to do this.

L. H. AND EDNA MAE STOWE

L. H. Stowe's father came from Lawton to Waurika in 1903. He was a native of Mississippi. He lived at Ennis, Texas, prior to going to Lawton, Oklahoma. L. H. (Les) Stowe was born in Mississippi. He and Edna Mae were married in 1917 at Gainesville, Texas. They have one son and two daughters and they are all living.

Mr. Stowe was in the grocery business in Waurika for 18 years. He sold this business to Mr. Frank Elkins and went up on East D Avenue and built a modern tourist court. This court enjoys the reputation of being one of the ultra modern courts of Southern Oklahoma. Every customer goes out of the Stow Courts a walking advertisement of the merits of this place. Mr. Stowe has had to enlarge the capacity of his courts beyond what he first built. He had faith in Waurika. Well, that's all right. Faith built Noah's ark.

L. H. Stowe is a veteran of World War I. He served thirteen months and two weeks in France, was Mayor of Waurika, Oklahoma, for four years and later was City Manager for two years.

Their son, Leslie Edward, lives in Maysville, Oklahoma. Their youngest daughter, Linda lives in Lindsay, Oklahoma. The oldest daughter, Virginia lives in Houston, Texas. And thereby hangs a little bit of interesting story.

Virginia married Cliff Trice. There is nothing unusually interesting in a girl's marrying, or especially what the groom's name might be. But this young man, Cliff Trice, has such an unusual record we deem it worthy of mention, and honorable mention at that. The American people will throw their hats into the air boosting for one of their number who has done the unusual.

Cliff Trice was born in Ryan, the son of worthy parents. After his father's death he came with his mother to Waurika where Cliff finished high school as valedictorian of his class. He went to Oklahoma University where he graduated with honors from the school of Petroleum Engineering. This was Cliff Trice, the boy, but Virginia Stowe took him for Cliff Trice, the man.

So out into the world they went. The oil game is usually reckoned as attended with more and greater hazards than almost any other profession. But for Cliff Trice, it was a hobby. His career has been nothing short of marvelous. We must bypass a number of his early successes by saying he was a close student and played a safe game all his own way. After a field of victories lay behind him, he went to Houston, Texas, where millions changed hands over night in the limitless expanse of searching for oil.

The experienced experts had searched out by their canny methods many traces and prospects

for oil and more oil. But it remained for a Jefferson County lad to bring out into plain view of all what they had overlooked.

He went to the City authorities and suggested he would like to lease their 1500 acres of dumping site. What, lease a garbage dumping ground? Yes, I believe there is a possible oil field. Some may have thought Cliff Trice was suffering from a brain storm of some kind, but it just so happened that Cliff Trice was far more than what they thought him to be.

He leased and secured drilling permits. Out of the first twelve wells drilled, there are eleven strong producers. These are pouring out millions of dollars every week in Black Gold. Houston is receiving royalties undreamed of.

The old oil experts are inquiring of Cliff Trice where he got his inspiration to drill out a garbage field. And he is not done. The total out-come will have to wait.

But Cliff Trice pulled a rabbit out of his hat and let Houstonians watch it run. And all of this is a part of Jefferson County and Waurika.

THE SMITH-COLE HOME

The Smith-Cole home includes the Reverend G. Lyle Smith and Mother Smith; and J. S. Cole and Lucile Cole, son-in-law and daughter. For a number of years, it was one of those rare combinations of father and mother; married daughter and her husband, all together in one big, roomy home. Not that it had to be that way, but because Father and Mother Smith wanted it to be so. The daughter, Lucile, always solicitous of the welfare of her parents, and Jim, the son-in-law, joined in the family combination which made a beautiful and commendable solidarity which cemented two families into one common cause, that of contentment.

And never could there be a more loyal display of filial care than they bestowed upon Father G. Lyle Smith and Mrs. Smith until the death of each. Mother Smith went first, then it seemed as if Jim and Lucile redoubled their care and attention to That Grand Old Man whom Lucile called Dad; and Jim referred to him as Brother Smith.

G. Lyle Smith was born at Huntsville, Texas, December 5, 1836. His neighbor, F. C. Marmaduke was born Feb. 2, 1836, thus making him a few months older than Reverend Smith. Thus, it was that these two men enjoyed the same age range of life and they often enjoyed relating some of their experiences. He will be referred to in this recital as G. Lyle. He preferred that style of address. He graduated from the Sam Houston State College at Huntsville, Texas, and for a time considered the law as a profession. No doubt he could have been eminently successful as a barrister for he was a fluent and forceful speaker. But the law was not to be his calling. One day he heard a small, sweet voice saying "Come with me." "I'll make you to be a fisher of men." And after sixty years as a Christian minister he said "I have never regretted the decision I made. My only regret is that I have not been a better one."

He entered upon his career as a minister of the Gospel in 1886. His first pastorate was at Bryan, Texas. He came to Oklahoma in 1910, assuming his first pastoral duties at El Reno, Oklahoma. In 1925, he came to Waurika where he served

as pastor of the First Christian Church for 20 consecutive years.

After retiring from active duties he spent the remainder of his long, eventful life in a somewhat quiet fashion in the home where the name plate by the side of the front door says "SMITH-COLE."

On August 15, 1888 he married Miss Emma Cooper of Dallas, Texas. They celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in Waurika. To this anniversary guests came from seven states and thirty-two different towns and cities.

During his life, he accumulated a large library which he willed to Texas Christian University of Fort Worth, Texas.

A remarkable man he was. Of the Old South with malice toward none and a love for humanity that enabled him to spread a mantle of charity toward the rights and opinions of others. A scholar and student of affairs all of his adult life. Retaining full use of his mental faculties to the last moment, he was ever a source of information and inspiration to his neighbors and to his loved ones.

Then one evening he was tucked nicely in his bed for the night. During that sleep he quietly slipped away to be with Him whom he had so honorably served for so long.

The following poem is recited here as it was read by J. M. Dyer in the Smith-Cole Home as a tribute to "Jim and Lucile" at their fortieth wedding anniversary where their neighbors and friends had gathered to help them honor the occasion. We call it Neighbors for they are that in every meaning of the word.

NEIGHBORS

Neighbors are but ordinary things,
But fine to have around—
The kind that can shout and love and sing,
Helping smiles and friendship to ever abound.

We love the kind that makes you feel
That living is quite worthwhile.
And when it comes to that, Jim and Lucile
Can make you love and smile.

Side-by-side for forty miles
They've pointed the way for many a one—
Lucile and Jim and father, G. Lyle,
To the Heavenly Father and Jesus, His son.

Their manner of life—praying and giving
While firmly standing hand-in-hand
Holding a light on the highway of living
Pointing the way to the Promise Land.

'Tis forty years since each pledged in heart
Before friends on earth and God above
They would walk as one "Till Death
do us part."

Their faith thus proving that "God Is Love."

The road seems shorter, the light grows
brighter,
And we stand with them on common ground
As our joys increase, our burdens grow
lighter
As we trust in God for a righteous Crown.

So, to Jim and Lucile, and father G. Lyle,
We'll trust with you in the God of all
nations—
For others who are of His Creation.

We wish for you many more miles together
As the span shall lengthen—hand in hand
In sunshine and shadow and all kinds
of weather
That the ground shall be firm and no
sinking sand.

When the work is over and your road has
ended,
And your lives covered by His blood and
His seal,
With joy in your hearts—all else
transcended,
You'll hear the glad words, "Come home,
Jim and Lucile."

F. C. MARMADUKE

F. C. Marmaduke was born in Missouri, February 2, 1863. The tragic Civil War was raging at white heat; General Lee had ordered General Pickett to take Cemetery Ridge. The Confederate forces charged up that hill of withering fire and death as the Union guns blasted them into nothingness, but little Frank Marmaduke lay undisturbed in his little crib at his home in Macon County, Missouri. Although born amid the momentous events of this fratricidal strife, never did one grow into a more peaceful and law abiding citizen.

With national peace restored, the peoples of both "The North" and "The South" began to exercise their American born privilege to move here, there and yon as their fancy might suggest. The United States of America became a veritable mixing bowl in which millions found themselves developing a strength of individuality and personality which had hitherto been unknown. F. C. Marmaduke was a partaker in this movement.

The unbroken spaces of Texas beckoned to him, and as thousands of others who came from Virginia, Missouri, Tennessee, or any one of the other States, he was moved to try Texas. He lived for awhile in Montague County, where he was engaged in farming and ranching as an employee. From there he came across Red River into the Indian Territory in 1901 settling on a ranch on Red Creek west of Oscar. He was now married and soon accumulated a nice herd of cattle which was the ambition of a large number of Texans and settlers in the Indian Territory. And why not, with blue stem dragging your pockets as you walked through it? Later, the family moved to Ryan to give the children the advantages of school. Two sons and two daughters graced the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marmaduke. One daughter died early in her married life; one lives presently in Wichita Falls, Texas; one son, Roy, is a trained accountant with The Carter Oil Company in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Roy has been with The Carter Oil Company for many years. He will make it his life's work. The older son, Arthur Marmaduke, is Judge of the District Court of the district composed by Jefferson and Stephens Counties. He has served a number of terms in this capacity to the high credit of himself and the Judicial District. He enjoys a fine record in that reversals by a higher court have been remarkably few. His decisions have stood when reviewed by Superior Courts. You have often heard the old saying,

"One can not lift himself by his own boot-straps", well, Arthur J. Marmaduke did.

F. C. Marmaduke was twice elected County Weigher for Jefferson County. He served in this office 1921-1924 inclusive.

He and his family moved from Ryan to Waurika on his birthday, February 2, 1915. Speaking of his age he says, "If I should live to February 2, 1958, I'll be 95". He and his worthy family have contributed in a large measure to the growth and development of Jefferson County. Ninety-five years of living, helping, loving and serving is a record comparatively few can claim.

MR. AND MRS. M. O. DYE

M. O. Dye was born in Pulasky County, Missouri, December 14, 1871. When he was seven years old the family moved from Missouri to Texas where they established a home in Tarrant County. He and Mrs. Dye were married in Tarrant County, Texas, in 1891.

In 1899 they left Texas and settled at Atlee, Picken County, Indian Territory. It will be noted in this connection, that frequent reference is made to Pickens County, I. T.

It might be explained that Pickens County embraced most all of the Chickasaw Nation; extending north from the Red River to South Canadian River; and east from the 98th Meridian of Longitude to the western boundary of the Choctaw Nation. Tishomingo being the Capital.

Atlee was a good place for Texans to stop and take inventory. The one time lively community of Atlee was settled by Texas people.

Mr. and Mrs. Dye have only one living child, Mr. Dillard Dye.

Mrs. Dye was born at Alvarado, Johnson County, Texas. She explains their lives together for 66 years have been just the ordinary type with an even tenor extending all the way. And that of the present they enjoy themselves in recalling much of the past, some of which if they could they would eliminate; but most of which they have no regrets.

Mr. Dye was a trustee of the Mountain Home School from 1914 to 1918. Later they lived in the Wray Chapel community between Ryan and Terrel. He was a member of the school board there.

They have lived in Waurika the last thirty years of their lives together. They enjoy their friends and they are friends to all whom they have come to know. As quiet, unassuming, peaceable citizens, they have played their part in our development.

We now discover, that along the track
There was sunshine and shadow many a day
Shadows, if we could, we would take back
And leave the sunshine all the way.

MR. AND MRS. G. B. SILKWOOD

G. B. Silkwood was born near Topeka, Kansas, in 1886. His father's family moved to Sherman, Texas in 1872. Two years later the family moved again, crossing Red River and settling at Woodville, Indian Territory. This was near the mouth of the Washita River. Young George B. Silkwood being now eight years of age and from this date on he remembers all the moves and changes the family made through the next fifteen years. His

father followed railroad construction crews from place to place to obtain work for the support of the family.

The next change was to West Texas in the buffalo country, thence into Bosque, Texas, in the central part of the state where employment on the railroad offered more dependable security. This all meant life in railroad camps which at its best, was primitive.

But the Silkwoods never flinched or complained. Texas, an untamed empire was undergoing a rash of railroad building that was well nigh unparalleled in the history of the railroad industry.

Mr. Silkwood says he had a sister who was born in a railroad camp, and was two years old before she even slept in a house. But the Silkwoods loved Texas. This sister was born in a camp in San Saba County, Texas.

From San Saba County, Texas, the call came which sent this family back to Sherman in Grayson County, Texas; thence to Glenrose in Somerville County where young George spent his 21st birthday in just another railroad camp.

George was of legal age, he had become a full grown man in more ways than just arriving at the age of 21 years. He had seen life in the raw; he had moved thousands, yes, hundreds of thousands of dirt for railroad fills; but now he thought of his future.

In 1887 he married at Van Alstyne, Texas, and in 1900 he and Mrs. Silkwood moved to Henrietta, Clay County, Texas, but the permanent home which the Silkwoods selected was on the North side of Red River. Accordingly, he and Mrs. Silkwood moved into Oklahoma Territory in 1903.

In 1905 they bought a relinquishment on a quarter section of land from Uncle Joe Hooper eight miles west of Waurika, paying \$1300.00 for the relinquishment. Here they lived for nearly forty years when they sold the farm and all farming equipment and moved to Waurika where they presently reside.

The most remarkable fact of their married life is they had ten boys and four girls born to them. What a home! Among these fourteen children were two sets of twins. The first twins consisted of a boy and girl. These sets were consecutive. The next was two boys. Of these children, eleven are living, eight boys and three girls.

When asked if there had been an event in his long life which was of special importance to him, he unhesitatingly replied, "Yes, when I gave myself to God. And I have been happy ever since I did it."

He gave this additional information concerning his father. His father was converted when all alone skinning a buffalo which had been killed by those who had been sent out to kill a certain number for meat for the railroad crews who were engaged in crossing Texas in those days. These were followed by the dressers, "skinners" they were called. It was while doing this his father was converted.

Mr. Silkwood states another very interesting story of the "Old West" but it was the New West then. These buffalo hides were spread out when green, then salted and left in the sun to dry. When thoroughly dry, they became as boards. They were then hauled to the leather markets where they commanded a price that yielded a very nice sum of money.

William F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill", took this job of supplying meat to railroad camps by contract. It was this practice that depleted the herds of buffalo on our western plains of Kansas, Texas and Oklahoma to the point of destruction.

And G. B. Cilkwood with his father saw this day. A frontiersman who at his present age of ninety-one continues active.

E. S. ATKINS, Waurika

It is pretty well agreed that E. S. Atkins is the oldest man living in Waurika. He was born in Talula Falls, Georgia in 1861. The fires of the Civil War were just getting under way to the extent it became a consuming conflagration that took the lives of men like grain falling before the harvester.

While E. S. was born into a maelstrom of madened fury, yet, he is one of the most composed and gently congenial personalities one could wish to find. He will tell you plainly he has seen both good times and hard times in his ninety-six years.

His father's family foved from Georgia to Fulton County, Arkansas. This move required six months on the road. When asked if he had ever experienced any hard times, he replied "Yes sir, plenty of them." Then he looked intently into space and said, "I pray God that no one shall ever see such as I experienced with my father's family early after the close of the War between the States. "There were months at a time when we had no bread. We lived on sweet potatoes, black-eyed peas and rabbits". We owned one milk cow. The Federals came through the country and took all kinds of livestock, chickens, cattle, even our horses or oxen we could have used for farming. You can't make much of a crop with nothing but an old hoe we hauled from Georgia." Mr. Adkins what was the hardest work you ever did? "When I cut trees by myself and split rails for 40 cents a hundred. I still have the 3 iron wedges I used."

He married in 1891. His children who are now somewhat on the aged side of life are widely separated living in California, Colorado, and Texas.

Mr. Atkins migrated from Arkansas to Oklahoma, living for a while at Hastings in Jefferson County; thence to Waurika in 1923.

When asked if he could recall any incident in his long life that afforded any unusual or particular satisfaction, he immediately replied "Yes, when I became a Christian."

And thus he approaches the closing days of a pioneer's life with a song in his heart and a prayer on his lips for all.

C. T. CHRISTIAN

Uncle Tom, he was called, and he wore the title like a Trojan, was born in Atlanta, Georgia and came to Texas in 1870. His first residence in Texas was near Cleburne, later near Fort Worth; thence to Clay County, Texas, where he resided until 1903 when he came to Oklahoma Territory and bought a farm five miles west of Waurika. Because of failing health, he and Mrs. Christian moved from their farm into Waurika where they lived for the remainder of their lives. He served as County Commissioner of Jefferson County from 1912 to 1916. A staunch Democrat, and noted for

his uprightness and square dealings as a citizen and as a county official.

In his community, in the town or on his farm, his advice and help was always sought in any matter or movement affecting the public welfare.

He was descended from the Aristocracy of the "Old South" and its traditions never lost place in his manly bearing. He held membership in the

Methodist Church. He and Mrs. Christian were the parents of two daughters, Mrs. J. W. Douthitt of Henrietta, Texas, and Mrs. Frank Curry of Waurika.

He died in Waurika in 1924. Mrs. Christian died at the home of her daughter in Henrietta, Texas one year later. Two lives for so long together could not long exist, one without the other.

OSCAR



Wilmer Seay Ranch Home.



Wilmer Seay Home in Ryan

In 1889 the State of Georgia supplied an estimable and enterprising citizen to what later became the State of Oklahoma. Oscar W. Seay turned his face from Dalton, Georgia, toward the west. The deep south with its limitations could no longer hold his adventurous spirit. He settled in an area of wide open spaces where the sky and the evening star appeared to be the only visible limits.

This area was approximately fourteen miles east and three miles south of the town of Ryan, I. T. The blue stem grass was high enough to drag the saddle stirrups as he rode over this area.

Oscar W. Seay liked it all. He began in a modest way to utilize this grass by first leasing the Indian land and later, as restrictions on the sale of this land by the Indians were removed, he would buy the land he had been leasing. In these days land was cheap and so were cattle. This was all to the advantage of the man of limited means.

Mr. Seay grew in means as his cattle grew on the range. Through the forty-one years of his life in Jefferson County, Oklahoma, he collected and laid foundation for the noted Seay Ranch as it exists today. During these active and prosperous years, he came to recognize a higher power than his own ability, and he set the remainder of his life to comport with that power.

A community school, post-office and Country Store sprang up and the name OSCAR just natur-

ally took hold of the community. A church building was erected on this ranch.

Oscar W. Seay put his life into his ranch; his family and his neighbors. Evidence of this is abundantly revealed in the lives and influence of his children as they, too, contribute in a worthy manner to their respective communities. His children have fulfilled every hope and aspiration of a father and mother.

Ranching came to them just as naturally as a bird takes to the air. They had been trained for the work by a capable and tender father and mother. They just extended the length of the "furrow" their parents had plowed.

Mr. Wilmer Seay has carried on the operations of the 18000 acre ranch his father began in 1889. The herd of Whiteface cattle that graze this ranch are a source of pride to every lover of high grade livestock. They constitute one of the many prize herds of Jefferson County. These Whitefaces, interesting and attractive as they are, have had to give right of way in certain sections of this ranch to oil wells of which there are approximately 300 producers. The wealth of oil, plus the livestock industry of this ranch combine to make it what is probably the most productive ranch in Jefferson County.

Great trees sometimes grow from small plantings. The tree Oscar W. Seay planted has most certainly grown until it over-shadows all he had ever dreamed of. It is a continuing joy in the heart of the writer to have known him. His name is written in capital letters as a citizen of Jefferson County.

His daughter, Mrs. Lawrence Brown, and Mr. Brown are co-operating in a grand way to fulfill what they believe to have been the wish and hope of her father, Oscar W. Seay, who passed away from this life in 1930. Their home occupies a beautiful site on their ranch not far from the original home-site where Mrs. Brown first knew Jefferson County. And that wish, literally translated, was the philosophy of a heart expressing the belief that no Nation can be strong except in the strength of God; and that the strength of a community, state or nation lies in the strength of its citizens.

RYAN

The best source of information available described the beginning of Ryan to concur with the building of the Rock Island Railroad through the southern section of Oklahoma. That was 1892. One very unusual feature is the angle at which the streets were surveyed. They follow the pattern of Spanish land surveys, all of which is on 45° angles. The site of Ryan is Township Six South, Range Seven West of the Indian Meridian and 98th Meridian of Longitude.

Weldon W. Guest is a member of The Oklahoma Historical Society. He has in his possession a wonderful store of information pertaining to all southern Oklahoma as revealed by photogravurs which have been carefully designed to validate early day

history which might otherwise be lost to the memory of man.

W. F. Guest, father of Weldon W. Guest, came to Ryan in 1894. Probably four of five stores had their beginning in 1892. W. F. Guest worked for a while in the store of John Ralls and O. B. Garrison. After a while as traveling salesman for International Harvester Company, he entered the hardware business with W. A. Walker as a partner. In 1901 he purchased Walker's interest and became the sole owner of the "W. F. Guest Hardware". It is believed this is the oldest continuously operated business in Jefferson County, as this business is presently owned and operated by a son, Weldon W. Guest.

This family came from Atlanta, Cass County, Texas, from the deep pine forests of East Texas to the wide-open spaces of Pickens County, Indian Territory. The W. F. Guest family consisted of the father and mother, six sons and one daughter.

Weldon W. Guest says "There has been at least one child from the Guest family in the Ryan school from 1897 to 1953". Fifty-six years is a pretty good record for school attendance by those of the same blood. To be sure, some to these schools were subscription schools. Public schools had not been possible in this area at that time.

Weldon's father, W. F. Guest, was appointed by the Constitutional Convention as acting County Clerk during the time intervening between Statehood election and induction into office of those who had been elected. This induction was at Ryan November 16, 1907. The County officials were all duly qualified in the Federal Court building and found offices there. This building was owned by S. W. Ryan for whom the town had been named and had housed the Federal Court in this area. J. F. Pendleton of Ryan had been the Clerk of the Federal Court.

The Chisholm Trail entered Indian Territory from Texas by crossing Red River at Red River Station just below Fleetwood. This crossing is clearly documented by photographic copy of original map dated 1871.

Jesse Chisholm pin-pointed the trail named for him by his numerous visits into and across the Indian Territory on trading expeditions. By his kindness and his fair dealings with the Indians, he won their abiding confidence. Up this trail from Texas came thousands of Longhorn cattle in the drives to shipping points in Kansas. From 1865 to 1885 many herds came up the trail so many that the long parallel trails they made can be seen in places even at this date.

John E. King writing in Southwest Magazine, issue of April 1949, says "About five million Texas cattle were driven to market during the years in which the herds churned the dust on the trails from Texas to Abilene and Dodge City, Kansas." By far the most important of these trails were "The Chisholm Trail" in Jefferson County and the Goodnight Trail which crossed the Red River farther west at what was known as Doan's crossing. These two trails joined before they reached Kansas.

The grave of Jesse Chisholm is just to the north

of Geary, Oklahoma. The grave marker is engraved as follows "No man was ever turned away from his door hungry or cold". 'Tis the spirit that makes a man great. The Indians reckoned him Great. This historic trail passed three miles east of Ryan. It was occasionally found of service by some who did not drive cattle.

The father of J. A. Burkhead once drove a herd of Indian pony mares down the Chisholm Trail (from north to south) and found ready sale for them to farmers and ranchers for breeding purposes. From which came the sturdy, fleet-footed cow pony of Texas after the herds of wild horses had vanished from the Texas plains.

Ryan can point with very justifiable pride to beautiful homes, excellent churches and a law abiding citizenship. They are a people who manifest a lively interest in all local matters and State and County affairs. They want good government and they vote for what they deem to be the best over-all interest of their town and their County. They believe that a Christian civilization stands on four pillars, viz, work, save, pray and vote.

MRS. SAM DAVIS

Mrs. Sam Davis, daughter of a pioneer preacher, S. W. Porter, is the mother of our fellow townsman and merchant, S. W. (Stub) Davis of Waurika and Ryan.

Mrs. Davis is unusually active and alert with a store of information relating to events and incidents of years long gone into unrecordable history except in the recesses of her heart and mind.

Weldon Guest referred me to her when I asked him if he could supply any information about the early day schools in Ryan.

When asked about the first school in Ryan, Mrs. Davis looked straight out into space it seemed. Her mind was reaching back. Then she turned to me and said in measured tones as if she wanted to speak clearly and carefully.

It was in 1893 the Presbyterian people founded a Church School. It was called The Presbyterian College and the building was a two-story form adorned with a beautiful cupola at the top. Mrs. Davis has a faded photograph of this building. The student body is in the picture and fifty-two students are easily counted, possibly more. This building stood on "education hill" where the Ryan School plant now stands. This site has been noted for Ryan schools, elementary and high, for so long any other location would appear quite out of place. S. W. Ryan was a loyal supporter of the Presbyterian College. Mrs. Davis says "S. W. Ryan contributed freely to the College." This building burned in 1898.

The first full term, nine months, of school in Ryan was taught by William Baker. The first lot sale was in June, 1892. The first newspaper, the Ryan Record, was published in 1893 by Miles Luster.

Mrs. Davis lives alone, her husband died in 1920. A complete recital of Sam Davis as editor and printer will be given in connection with "The Ryan Leader.

MRS. GEORGE WASHINGTON SPLAWN

The widow of George Washington Splawn makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Nash of Ryan, Oklahoma. She has lived a number of years with Mr. and Mrs. Nash where she is living out her years sheltered by the love and careful attention of the family.

Her ninety-first birthday has been observed, but she readily admits she does not expect "to make another ninety". Mrs. Splawn is a native of Tennessee, emigrating to Texas when she was young. She is not able to fix the date when she left Tennessee. She explains that so many events in her long life have tended to melt together that she is unable to separate them. The writer can testify to the fact that he knew Mr. and Mrs. George W. Splawn in Wise County, Texas, sixty years ago.

Mr. George W. Splawn was a friend that no one could ever forget. He answered the call to "come up higher" many years ago. When asked if she still enjoyed her friends, she replied "O yes, very much". If an abundant supply of snow white hair can be a crowning glory Mrs. Splawn is doubly blessed. Her lifetime attitude toward those things that go into the make-up of an American community remains with her today. There is no complaining at life. She has no thorns to place in any one's path. She continues to sow love, good will and sunshine toward all who come within range of her circle.

If there be suffered an injury, she has a pardon; where there is despair, she holds a hope; if there be discord, she will resort to harmony. She will testify to the fact that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

S. W. RYAN

S. W. Ryan was a native of the State of Arkansas. He came to the Indian Territory in 1875. He was far more than a prominent citizen of Ryan. He was an institution within himself and by his own life. Certainly, the town must be named for him. He was there when the town came.

In conversation with Mrs. W. B. Wray, his daughter, we gleaned a few of the facts which were a part of Mr. Ryan. Said Mrs. Wray, "So much of my father's life has become dim in my recollection. I wish I could tell you more". Continuing, she said, "My daddy never told us a lot about himself. He lived his life and left it to his neighbors."

His intimate friends and neighbors referred to him as Walker Ryan. He married a daughter of Douglas Johnston of the Chickasaw Tribe. William H. (Bill) Murray married a cousin of Mrs. Wray's mother, also of the Chickasaw Tribe.

If I may be pardoned for relating a true incident which clearly reveals to my satisfaction the type of man S. W. Ryan was. I shall try to recite the incident exactly as it occurred. Some years ago when I was connected with the Public Service Company of Oklahoma, the Shell Pipe Line Corporation had built an oil pumping station just west of Ryan. The electric utility company built a 33000 volt line from the Waurika Sub Station to Red River to serve the Shell Corporation. A little later the Public Service Company bought the electric distribution privilege at Terral. Then to

transmit electric service from the Shell Sub Station to Terral required right of way privileges for poles and all equipment necessary for a transmission line carrying 2800 volts.

To get out from the Shell Pump Station, it became my duty as local manager to secure easements for this right of way. We must cross some of Mr. Ryan's valuable farming land lying between the Ryan depot and Beaver Creek. I called on Mr. S. W. Ryan at his home in Ryan. After explaining the need in order to build to Ryan, he said "What can I do about helping you?" I advised him that we needed to set a line of poles across that particular portion of this farm, and would he state the price he would expect the Company to pay. He said, "Mr. Dyer, all my life I have tried to encourage progress. Go ahead and build your electric line." "But Mr. Ryan, you understand this will be permanent so far as you and I are concerned. What do you expect us to pay? We usually pay an agreed price for each pole we set." He replied "Nothing. Set the poles. Build the line and give Terral electric service. Then, when I explained that to make such a plan legal, there must be a value consideration, Mr. Ryan in his matter of fact way said "Pay me \$1.00 per pole". That was the cheapest right of way for a pole line I ever bought, and I had to talk him into that.

Now dear reader, you know why I have ever held Walker Ryan in high regard. His was the spirit of mutual helpfulness. He was a benefactor without thinking so. He was for progress and was willing to help.

THE RYAN LEADER

As stated at the conclusion of the chapter relating the memories and some of the experiences of Mrs. Sam Davis, we herewith relate the essential features of the Ryan Leader.

The "Publisher" printed January, 1957, Volume XXVII, which Mr. J. T. Daniel kindly furnished to us, officially verifies the correctness of Mrs. Sam Davis in stating the first newspaper to be published in Ryan was the Ryan Record by Miles Luster in 1893. Miles Luster sold to Jack Cleaver and Mr. Edgel and they sold to Tom Cody. Cody then sold part interest to Sam Davis in 1896. Jack Cleaver and S. C. (Sam) Davis bought the paper and moved it to Sugden for a short time, moving back to Ryan in 1907 as The Ryan Leader. Statehood became a reality November, 1907.

Cleaver and Davis were newspaper men of the old school. They gave Ryan and Jefferson County a good paper.

Samuel Clark Davis, familiarly known to his friends as Sam Davis, was a careful, experienced printer. His purpose was to serve his trade well.

It was in 1908 that we learned much of the real man in whose breast beat a compassionate heart. Sam Davis did the printing for a group of thirty-two ladies who constituted themselves "The Ryan Ladies Study and Music Club" (R.L.S.M. Club). These initial letters are in old English. The entire print of this year book is as plain as when it came from the Ryan Leader press in 1908. Those were the days when printers enjoyed the art of hand set. This should be of personal interest to the citizens of Ryan, and for that reason we are "calling the roll" of that Club.

MEMBERS

Mrs. Horace Bennett
 Mrs. W. R. Brown
 Mrs. C. Y. Culberson
 Mrs. Chas, E. Davis
 Mrs. J. M. Dyer
 Miss Ethel Edmondson
 Mrs. Bernard Gault
 Mrs. Webb George
 Mrs. Beeson Grantham
 Mrs. Guy Green
 Mrs. John Harper
 Mrs. Will Haywood
 Miss Ruby Kehoe
 Miss Lennie Keith
 Mrs. A. R. Lewis
 Miss Annie Tupper
 Mrs. L. D. Major
 Mrs. A. R. Manton
 Mrs. J. D. McReynolds
 Mrs. John R. Ralls
 Mrs. Perry Ralls
 Miss Daisye Richards
 Miss Willie Richards
 Mrs. J. W. Sampson
 Mrs. Martin Sharp
 Mrs. L. O. Smith
 Miss Nelle Stanfield
 Mrs. J. R. True
 Mrs. L. L. Wade
 Mrs. Emory Wales
 Miss Frances Wilson
 Mrs. Garrett Mays

Homer Buizenbark was the next owner and editor after the paper had been moved back to Ryan.

Zeb Spearman bought out Buizenbark in 1913. He continued as editor and owner until 1917 when Robert and Anna Hughes became owners. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes enjoyed ownership and publishers until 1939. As such they piloted the policy of their paper through twenty-two years filled with rapid and continuous progress and events which affected, not only Jefferson County, but the entire State of Oklahoma and the Nation.

The first fourteen years of Robert and Anna Hughes as owners were filled with matters incident to World War I and the healing of its scars that were evident on every hand.

Then followed what was known as the "depression" and it was all that word means; it was a pressing down, a dullness of trade and a hollowness which turned to melancholy. But publication of the Ryan Leader went on until Robert Hughes' health failed him. After twenty-two strenuous years in the newspaper business, he and Anna sold to J. T. Daniel, the present owner, in 1939. Mr. Daniel has been the sole owner for eighteen years. He is a hustler for news and business for the Ryan Leader; he is giving his readers a good paper and we predict he will do so for some time to come.

J. T. Daniel is qualified by education and experience to do a good job publishing a newspaper in Oklahoma. He served six terms as a member of the Oklahoma Legislature, the longest of any member in the history of Jefferson County. He served as majority leader in 1932, and speaker of the House in 1936. He is listed in Who's Who in the South and Southwest and in Commerce and

Industry. He was a teacher before entering politics and the newspaper business.

PEOPLE'S BANK AND TRUST COMPANY

The Peoples Bank and Trust Company of Ryan, Oklahoma, was organized March 5, 1906. This financial institution was chartered by M. H. Barrett, President and W. B. Wray, H. V. Bird and Newt Gann. H. V. Bird was designated as Cashier and remained so until he went to Oklahoma City to accept a position in the State Department of Government.

This bank rendered many services to Jefferson County in extending credit to the County Commissioners in the "setting up" of County government in November, 1907. There were no county funds with which to purchase supplies necessary to keep records, pay salaries, etc. The Peoples Bank and Trust Company advanced the necessary funds until the County Commissioners negotiated a loan from the State School Land Commission.

The first board of County Commissioners was N. P. Giles from Hastings, J. T. McClure from Grady and Joe M. Bound from Ryan. It might be amusing to some of the old times to relate a little bit of humor that J. M. Bound injected into the first meeting of this Board. N. P. Giles had been elected Chairman of the Board. So, in this first meeting, Mr. Giles leaned back and said "Well, Gentlemen, What shall we do for finances?" Mr. McClure, a steady going man who never used any unnecessary words, allowed that he had not solved that problem in his own mind. Then Giles asked Mr. Bound what he would suggest. Mr. Bound spoke for the first time in that meeting, saying "By Ned, I don't know, but we have two good banks in Ryan and I'm in favor of consulting one or both of them."

The Peoples Bank and Trust Company was organized by the guiding genius of M. H. Barrett, Sr. He has been followed in this business by the late M. H. Barrett, Jr. who served as President until his death. He was followed by his brother, C. B. Barrett as president of the institution founded by his father fifty-two years ago. Mr. C. N. Norman is the very efficient Vice President and Cashier at the present. He has been in this position about ten years.

The institution has enjoyed a high rating in the banking field throughout the years. Come drought or flood; peace or war; depression or inflation; the Peoples Bank and Trust Company has an eye on the industrial chart, and its hand on the financial pulse and just keeps going.

Mrs. M. H. Barrett, Sr. lives at Bethany, Oklahoma. She is a sister of the Honorable Judge Cham Jones who was the delegate from Ryan to the Constitutional Convention which initiated Statehood. It was he who prescribed the boundaries of Jefferson County. The name Barrett just naturally ties in with Ryan. The mention of one will suggest the other.

This is only natural. We Americans like anybody who is friendly and most Americans are friendly. That is way names of those who began at the beginning and worked to the finish live in our way of life.



Tommy Hughes Home, Ryan. President of First State Bank.

The First State Bank of Ryan, Oklahoma, was organized by William F. Brice of Quanah, Texas, June 1, 1894. A correspondence account was opened with the Hanover National Bank of New York City June 20, 1894. J. E. Ledbetter early became connected with the bank at the time it was designated as the Bank of Ryan.

The Bank of Ryan was sold December 10th, 1894 to W. B. Tullis of Quanah, Texas. The exact date is not available, but at some later date Miles Kern became President of this bank. It is only an impression in the mind of the writer, and is subject to correction by any reader who has clearer information, that Miles Kern was from Gainesville, Texas. We do know he was with the bank in 1907 and J. H. (Henry) Whiteside was cashier. The history of this bank from Statehood to date is quite clear.

Mr. E. L. Worrell had been in the Bank at Hastings. He was a very popular banker there and married a Hastings girl, Miss Hattie Jones, sister of Harry Jones who was for years a Ryan business man and which business continues under the very competent management of Mrs. Jones.

Ed Worrell took advantage of the opportunity which offered larger fields of service. He lifted his business horizon and moved to Ryan as President of this bank in 1909. For the next twenty-six years to 1935, he continued with this bank. His death removed from our midst a good business man, a man who knew how to make friends. During Mr. Worrell's connection with this bank, Henry Whiteside was cashier from 1907 to 1924 when he moved to Lubbock, Texas. He was well liked in any community where he did business. His son, Clarence Whiteside is President of a strong Insurance company at Lubbock, Texas.

Mr. Worrell's son, E. L., Jr. is an officer of City National Bank of Wichita Falls, Texas. E. L. Worrell, Sr. and Henry Whiteside not only gave Ryan and Jefferson County a good bank, and a standard of citizenship that we can well afford to emulate, but they and their homes gave to society and to Texas two good business executives who are a source of pride to their friends and loved ones and a pattern for other generations which may come their way. This is progress.

In 1936 W. A. Allen, a well known and worthy citizen of Ryan became President. Mr. Allen served in this capacity until 1941. His later years were marred by a failing in health and he was compelled to lead a less active life.

Tom Hughes, son of Robert and Anna Hughes, was the next President. Tom is proving himself an executive of the highest type. Mrs. Tom Hughes assumed charge of operations of this bank in 1941. Tom Hughes standing in the Association of Bankers is good; his qualifications are equal to the demands of courteous, sound and dependable banking. Banking in which the public has confidence. And it may be said that Jefferson County is blessed with safe and dependable banks.

In the County's banking history there has never been a failure in the banking industry. There have been about two voluntary liquidations, but no smell of shortage or mismanagement has been found.

This First State Bank at Ryan is now owned, building and stock by the Hughes family. I think Robert Hughes must be smiling down on them from his mansion in the sky.

THE MAJOR PIONEERS



Another side view of the Sugg Ranch, birth place of Cassie Sugg-Brown.

The Old South supplied a number of pioneers to what later came to be Jefferson County, Oklahoma. Alabama supplied two of these pioneers who names have lived in this section of the State since 1898.

Walter Major and his brother, L. D. Major, removed from Belvue, Clay County, Texas and settled near Ryan as early day ranchmen. The extensive reaches of unoccupied grass lands stood as a natural invitation to the stock industry. This type of industry meant the cattle business.

L. D. Major accepted this invitation at once and began acquiring land; and soon the Major Ranch was well on its way. He acquired some 12,000 acres of fine grass and this established what was known throughout Southern Oklahoma as the Major Ranch. His was an excellent type of the pioneer days of ranching in Jefferson County.

Walter Major was the father of our fellow citizen, Glen Major of Ryan. When Glen was a baby his father died. Mrs. Kellie B. Major is his mother and before her marriage she was Miss Kellie Brown. She was born in Arkansas and came to Indian Territory in a very early day. She was a successful public school teacher in Jefferson County, having taught her first school in Ryan. She was the daughter of Cassie Sugg Brown.

The old "tumbling log house", a double it is, was built where it now stands as a reminder of days long gone by on the site of the T. B. Kelley home, one fourth mile south of the foot of Main Street in Waurika, was built by the Sugg Broth-

ers. It was in this house that Cassie Sugg was born. She was so well and favorably known in Ryan for so long, that her name became an endearing influence in many homes in Jefferson County. In Ryan, her's was a household term through the community. Mention has been made to this in a former chapter on Ryan, but it will bear repeating here. She gave to Ryan the open air tabernacle which supplies a place for worship services to any religious organization. Glen Major's grandmother was a niece of the Sugg Brothers, John, Ikard and Cal who established the Sugg Ranch some time in the 1870's. This ranch empire extended east and west from the double log cabin on Beaver Creek to Cache Creek and North to the Site of Fort Sill.

The first cattle loading pens were built at Sugden with the coming of the Rock Island Railroad in 1892.

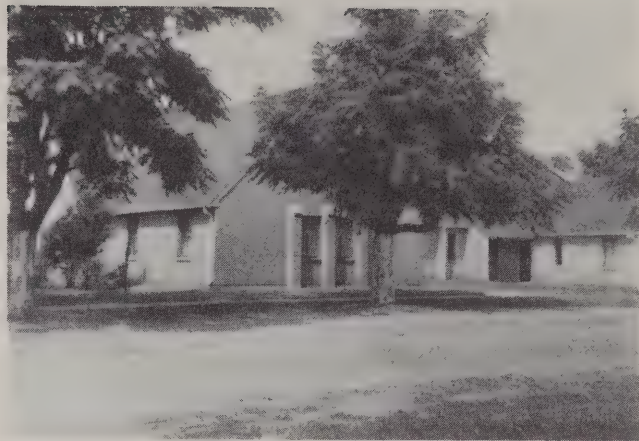
The southern ranchmen gave freely to Southern Oklahoma in bringing about the modern ranching business as it is known today. Jefferson County has come a long, difficult way from the longhorns that went up the Chisholm Trail before the days of the railroad to the present day pure breeds that graze so contentedly on the blue stem that prevails and which is the most drouth resisting and dependable of all native grasses.

It will not be out of place to mention another pioneer rancher and brother-in-law to L. D. Major. Andy Manton held extensive grazing lands immediately north of the Major Ranch. He and Mrs. Manton will be remembered by many Jefferson County people as typical westerners of the old school. They were the parents of two daughters, Katy and Lucy. Mr. Manton died in the 1920's. The exact date is not available. However, when one passes from earth is of little importance when compared with the heritage he passes on to his family, his neighbors and his country.

The heritage these pioneers, and all such as they, have handed down to present generations are blessings which may sometime be underestimated or forgotten entirely. They should not be forgotten but rather should the present preserve and enlarge on the foundation these pioneers laid.

We often speak, and rightly so, of the state and county in which we live as a fine country, a mild climate with excellent people and hard surfaced roads and on and on we go enlarging our section of the good old U. S. A., but how often do we stop to consider the factors which have made our country great? Let us fail not in giving due credit to those who came early and worked late to prepare a better and more general opportunity for the welfare of generations that were to follow.

Those who have been enumerated in this chapter will serve as types of civilization builders, many of whom wrought more nobly in their day than they realized.



Methodist Church, Ryan.

The Methodist Church of Ryan was organized in 1894. The names of only a few of the charter members are available. If all the facts concerning these early day church organizations were known, it is very probably that congregations in those pioneer days were small in comparison with present day memberships. The following names have been made available through the help of Mr. Weldon Guest, who holds membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society. He had been exceedingly generous in co-operating in many ways in the preparation of this volume.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin S. Sharp and Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Garrison were among the charter members of this congregation. The Reverend Terral for whom Terral, Indian Territory was named was an early pastor. Two other pastors were Rev. Lewis Stuckey, and Rev. Godbey. Rev. Godbey was a missionary to the Indians.

From this beginning sixty-three years ago, has come one of the strong Churches of Southern Oklahoma. The pioneer churches necessarily because of a sparse population and general environs, had to deal with many factors always present with a small beginning. No flower blooms in all its fulness of fragrance and beauty until the bud has fully opened.

As of today, this congregation of Christians has worked toward and for a better day which shall continue to influence and persuade the lives of people who shall come within range of its purveyance. The church building is a new edifice which would be a credit to any town or congregation. Evidently, this people "had a mind to build." It is in our churches that we learn the lessons to which the following admonition points.

Trust not to self to win life's race;
Arms are too short; flesh is too weak.
Strength must come from God's free grace
While on this earth, heaven we seek.



First Baptist Church, Ryan.

In an early day in Pickens County, I. T. an old fashioned pioneer Baptist preacher by the name of J. B. (Brad) Hayes lived in the region of Marietta, Oklahoma. He was known in the Community of Bridgeport and Chico, Texas as Brad Hayes, the preacher "on horse-back." From there, he came into the Indian Territory and located near Marietta about 1889 or 1890.

Churches were few and far between in the Indian Territory in those days, now three quarters of a century past. Bradford Hayes set himself to the task of preaching anywhere at any time he could secure a group of people. He did not hesitate to preach a sermon if he could get 3 or 4 together. He widened his circuit from the Marietta and Ardmore area westward to the 98th Meridian of Longitude which divided the Indian Territory from the Oklahoma Territory; or in other words the Meridian divided the Five Civilized Tribes from the Comanches, the Apaches and the Kiowas who had been confined under the military rule of Federal authorities at Fort Sill. It was this order of things and events in the life of Bradford Hays that induced and enabled him to organize churches all up and down the 98th Meridian from Terral and Ryan on the Red River north to the Washita. It was he who presided in the organization of the Baptist Church of Ryan.

History reveals that the church building was erected in 1897. It is probable the membership was organized earlier, as that would have been the natural order of Church events in those days.

Called to the first pastoral care of this Church, was the Rev. T. F. Coe. A few are living who may remember this preacher. He was the father of A. L. Mains' first wife.

W. F. Guest was a charter member. Other charter members of this organization are not definitely known. But the ten year lapse from 1897 to 1907, Oklahoma statehood date, reveals a spiritual growth in the development of a country from the initial start made by the saddle bag preachers to a miraculous extent.

The following are some of the names of the membership of this church as of 1907. W. F. Guest, J. F. Pendleton, J. R. True, Mrs. Andy Manton, W. J. Chapman, Prof. Duncan, Superintendent of Schools, F. C. Marmaduke, Mrs. A. L. Mains, J. T. Askew, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Spring.

Fifty years being changes in the personnel of any community or any organization.

"As all in the Ark were saved from the flood;
So shall it be in His shed blood
For all who will come, even you and me,
It was given for us on Calvary's tree."

ROLL CALL OF RYAN PIONEERS

Let every one be quiet while we call the roll of the pioneers who built Ryan in the early days. As the names are called please note those who are not present.

S. W. Ryan, founder of the town of Ryan, came to the Indian Territory when a young man. Identified himself with the Chickasaw Nation by marrying an Indian girl of that tribe. He early acquired title to large land holdings in the vicinity of what later became the town bearing his name. He moved families onto these lands to open up farms. He raised cattle for sometime, selling his land gradually. In 1892 when the Rock Island railroad was built, he platted the townsite and we'll agree he knew a site for building a town.

O. B. Garrison, partner with John R. Ralls, came to Ryan from Belcherville, Texas and established the first general store in Ryan. After a few years, he bought Mr. Ralls interest and operated the O. B. Garrison Dry Goods and Grocery business for many years. Approximately eight or ten years ago, he died in the town where he had lived for so long co-operating with his neighbors and bringing up a family.

William F. Guest came from Atlanta, Texas to Ryan in 1894, worked for a short time with Ralls and Garrison, then became a traveling salesman for the Deering Harvester Company in Texas and Indian Territory. In 1897 he engaged in the hardware business with W. A. Walker as partner. He soon purchased Walker's interest and continued in this business until his death in 1921. His son Weldon Guest presently operates this business, the oldest business in Jefferson County continuously operated and owned by the same family.

Martin S. Sharp was the first railroad depot agent, the first depot building being a box car on the side track. Mr. Sharp later became manager of the William Cameron Lumber Company and remained so until his death.

J. D. McReynolds came from Atlanta, Texas, and established the first feed and seed store in Ryan in 1893. Later he operated the Lyon and Matthews Lumber yard. Somewhere near the date of Statehood in 1907 he went into the Coal and feed business.

James K. Mulcock, another pioneer hardware man, settled in Ryan about 1898. He was born in England and operated the hardware store here until his death in 1910, or near that date.

J. L. Kehoe, a blacksmith before statehood. When a small boy he emigrated with his parents from Ireland and the family settled in Ryan, I. T. The father and mother knew no English. Mr. Kehoe operated his blacksmith shop until his death. Every one will testify that he was honest, hard working and a man who molested no one.

J. L. Henderson was an early day grocerman and his brother George Henderson, operated a coal and feed store in addition to a dray line.

Pioneer Doctors were as follows, though not necessarily in order of their services. Dr. George Wilton came from Belcherville, Texas to Grady,

I. T. thence to Ryan where he practices until his death.

Dr. A. R. Lewis was a practicing physician in Ryan before statehood. He was appointed State Health officer in 1920 and held that position with offices in Oklahoma City for many years.

Dr. Alby, a young man of Spanish ancestry.

Dr. Bittick settled in Ryan about the year 1900. For about ten years he enjoyed a satisfactory practice in Ryan then he moved on to other fields.

Dr. J. W. Watson came to Ryan before Statehood from Wynnewood, I. T. He practices here until his death in 1936.

Early after Statehood Dr. L. L. Wade of Decatur, Texas, practiced here until his death. Dr. Wade was a nephew of Dr. Geo. Wilton. He and this writer were class mates in the Decatur, Texas high school. He came to Ryan first as a teacher and was Superintendent of the Ryan Schools before statehood. At Statehood he was elected to be the first County Superintendent of Schools of Jefferson County. It was he who platted the Jefferson County School district boundaries and then numbered them giving Ryan School District No. 1. These boundaries remained as he had outlined them until consolidation of school districts began to operate. After his services to Jefferson County's schools he prepared himself for a physician. After he obtained his M.D. degree he returned to Ryan as a physician. He enjoyed the esteem and confidence of the people where he had taught school and of the County he had served as the First County Superintendent of Schools. He can't answer here to this roll call but his friend through life, J. M. Dyer, can answer for him.

The first U. S. Deputy Marshals in Ryan were Zed Brock and Frank Smith. It was they whom the early day Indian Territory outlaws had to watch, but some of the notorious law offenders were captured and brought to justice by these two men.

Judge Frank M. Bailey who now lives in Chickasha, was one of the Federal Judges who held court in Ryan as the seat of the Federal Court.

Captain J. M. Adams, an attorney in Ryan and after statehood became County Judge.

Ed Groves came to Ryan in 1902 and practiced as a veterinarian.

E. E. Graves lived in Ryan from 1905 until his death in 1953. He was a rancher and dealt extensively in cattle. He and J. F. Jackson owned a dry goods business here.

M. H. Barrett, banker, ranchman and citizen, organized the Peoples Bank and Trust Company in 1906. He was a businessman and he was possessed of a natural tact for business, large or small. His business ventures always turned out well. This bank is presently under the management of Mr. C. B. Barrett, a son.

Aunt Cassie Brown, daughter of Mr. Suggs, was born in the log house which presently stands where the T. B. Kelly home is now, just south of Waurika. She remembered to her last days how bands of Indians, the Comanches, came to the home of her parents asking for meat, tobacco and sugar. She was deeply religious and was well known for her many kind and generous deeds. She built and donated to the town of Ryan a large open-air tabernacle, free to any religious group for meetings. Many have said of her "She was the

greatest person I ever knew." She was a pioneer of the highest rank and her life was set to serve those who were less fortunate.

"And their works do follow them." Rev. 14:13

The first school known in what came to be Jefferson County was at the Baldwin Store and post-office at Rock Crossing on Beaver Creek, about one mile north of Ryan. This was a three months term and was supported by private subscription, the parents paying the tuition.

The first school in Ryan was of the same type and was conducted in the Presbyterian Church, the first church in Ryan. This was taught by Miss Lizzie McPherson, a three month term. Then came W. C. Baker in 1892. Then in 1894 a Presbyterian College opened its doors with Prof. W. A. Irwin as president. This institution offered a regular pre-university course. The college building was located on "Education Hill" where the present Ryan school stands. The college building burned after about three years of operation. The public schools came in 1898. Prominent Superintendents of the Ryan School, Samuel W. Hayes, Prof. Campbell, L. L. Wade and M. H. Duncan. Others who were in every way worthy of mention are necessarily omitted from lack of a complete record. But these who are mentioned have been authenticated.

IRVING

Four miles west and two miles north of Ryan, Oklahoma, the Red River makes a broad sweep as if it were trying to go into Texas. This curving sweep forms a bend as if to take that section of Jefferson County into the River's arms. In this bend lies an agricultural area as rich in alluvial soil as the Valley of the Nile. And living on these farms are a people as rich in heart as is the farming land which surround them.

At Statehood, and for several years thereafter, three separate school districts were included in that is now The Irving Community. These first rural schools were Banner, Lookout and Valley Views. These three districts combine to form the Consolidated District known as Irving.

This was the first consolidated School in Jefferson County, and its first Superintendent was J. M. Dyer. The first school board of this Consolidated District was Bruce Anderson, Charley Oaks, and J. K. Heath.

A public meeting was called to give every patron an opportunity to suggest a name for the newly formed district. After various names had been suggested, none of which seemed to meet with full approval, some one suggested that the school superintendent name the school which would mean a name for the community at large. A motion to that effect was made. "Motion carried unanimously" was recorded in the written proceedings.

The name Irving was suggested, thus naming the district after the Father of American Literature, Washington Irving. And that is how Jefferson County's first consolidated school came to be known as The Irving Community. The district built an imposing school building with will appointed accommodations which has been a source of pride to the entire district for nearly forty years.

Recent school legislation made certain specific requirements on Oklahoma's High Schools which many could not meet. Irving's school was one of many which could not comply with these requirements, hence was forced to surrender its high school. If this was to be done, the district voted to abandon the grade school so all students could be transported together.

The Community maintains a church where religious services are available to all who wish to attend. These services are weekly the entire year, or what is customarily termed "a full time Church." A community store has been enjoyed for many years, and a gas service station for car owners.

It will be of interest to the people of this progressive community, if we submit a roll call of the names of those who have been contributors to this flourishing section of Jefferson County. We are again, as in other places, forced to rely on memory, therefore if some names should be omitted, it is to be attributed to lapse of memory and certainly with no intention of leaving off any name.

As you may happen to call this roll, it would be well to pause occasionally and recall something this man, or the family, did to assist the Community life.

This Irving roll call very appropriately furnished the following names as family groups by calling the head of the family.

I. H. Lewis	D. Thompson
Lee Wilson	E. J. Dawkins
J. R. Lyles	D. Dawkins
A. B. Stovall	Tom Johnson
T. L. McMenamy	Jim Holland
M. C. Cook	Bill Smyers
James Ward	Bruce Anderson
E. J. Harris	L. L. Weatherly
J. M. (Mac) Hughes	C. J. Palmer
C. O. Oakes	J. M. Palmer
J. K. Heath	John Skelton
I. H. Keel	J. R. (Bob) Gillespie
J. P. Knouse	W. P. Glazner
W. M. Marmor	Mr. Peterson
J. H. Watson	Tobe Hughes
J. G. Hargis	

TERRAL



J. R. Trout Home, Terral. President of First National Bank.



J. C. McGinness Home, Terral. Cashier of First National Bank, Terral. 26

It is a psychological fact, that the mention of a name will often suggest another name. To mention Terral, a town of 750 or 800 people in the extreme southern part of Jefferson County and one mile from Red River, immediately suggests the name Trout. Mr. John R. Trout is associated with the town of Terral and has been for the duration of his life.

Before Terral as a town had been dreamed of, S. George Trout came to Indian Territory in 1881. He married Annise Stanton of the Choctaw Tribe, and whose father was a Methodist preacher. For a time George Trout worked in and around Bowie, Texas with a drilling equipment putting down water wells. This he did for a brief period of time to secure funds with which to develop farm lands along Red River. George Trout knew those wide reaching valleys of the Bend in Red River would be exceedingly fertile and productive. He went about the task of reducing them from the primitive as the Indians had so long known them and bring 9000 acres of this valley into crop production. On this 9000 acre spread he settled ninety tenants in ninety dug-outs. This plan allotted 100 acres to each tenant.

This was in 1891. George Trout had been here ten years. These tenants planted their respective 100 acres to oats. The land was new; not since it came from the hand of the Creator has a plough scarred its surface. The oat crop was a bumper.

This crop of oats was sold at 14c per bushel. To be strictly conservative and estimate this yield at 60 bushels per acre. This 9000 acres would produce 540,000 bushels, at 14c per bushel would show a cash value of \$75,600.00.

George Trout had shown the natives how to farm, especially when they had a valley equal to that of the Nile in Egypt. This area was an Eden and so continues until this day.

John R. Trout is the son of the union of George Trout and Annise Stanton.

George Trout had evidently planned his extensive farming to co-incide with the completion of The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad across the Indian Territory in 1892. Otherwise, there would have been no means of putting half a million bushels of oats on the market.

In 1892, J. H. D. Terral and High Schoolfield, uncle of Jefferson County's well known pioneer, Emmett Schoolfield, surveyed the townsite of Terral. The site was selected from an oat field, the oats had been harvested and shocked, but these

shocks had to be moved to another location to make room for the Main Street of Terral. Thus, the town of Terral was brought into existence and name for the surveyor, J. H. D. Terral.

Incidentally a daughter of this surveyor, Terral, was in Terral this June, she said "just to see Terral and its people" She lives in Longview, Texas.

John R. Trout is the only living son of S. George Trout. He married Miss Lula Timberlake a well known early day citizen of that section of Jefferson County to this union a son and a daughter were born. Only the daughter survives and she is Mrs. Karl Wilcoxson and they live in Dallas, Texas.

Mrs. Viola Malone of Terral and Mrs. Maud Marshall of Dallas, Texas are sisters of John Trout.

The First National Bank of Terral has stood for fifty years as a reminder of the name Trout. John R. Trout has been active in its operation since statehood. Has been president since 1930, however he is not too active in the bank at this time. He has extensive land holdings and this with the Whiteface cattle take most of his attention, but he is a tireless worker. If you should go to Terral looking for John Trout you would probably find him somewhere about one of his numerous barns working at something.

His and Mrs. Trout's home in Terral is a veritable show place. They may not think so, but it is. It seems nothing has been overlooked as the grounds are spacious and beautifully landscaped. The residence is imposing because of its size, its cool and inviting porches, and every appointment for beauty and comfort meets you from every angle. He and Mrs. Trout are members of the local Methodist Church. Terral would not appear quiet natural if the name of Trout were to be left out of any attempt at drawing a word picture of the community.

The Terral high school enjoys first class rating from educational history in Oklahoma. The school grounds are roomy and well kept. It is a reputable and qualified source of satisfactory advertising for the town and the entire community.

L. F. WRAY

Mr. L. F. Wray is the careful, competent and obliging postmaster at Terral and has been in this position since 1933. The postoffice was established in 1892.

His father came from Texas in 1888. His mother was a daughter of S. W. Ryan for whom the town of Ryan was named. The mother was a member of the Chickasaw Tribe.

Mr. Wray and Mr. Trout could join hands with Will Rogers in saying "our ancestors were here to meet the Mayflower." The Terral postoffice has a history of sixty-five years and L. F. Wray has been in charge for almost half that time. He says he expects to retire one of these days.

His wife was Miss Charlott Colburn before marriage. His father operated the first lumber yard in Terral. Both are graduates of Decatur Baptist College, Decatur, Texas. That they have contributed for many years and always honorably, to the welfare of Terral and its people is easy to say and well justified.

JOE E. ROGERS

Joe E. Rogers is a native of Tennessee. When he was eight years old he found himself in Wise County, Texas. He is known in Terral today by those who have been intimately connected with him as Uncle Joe. In his own way, he says "I somehow grew up in and around Decatur, Texas" He married there, his wife being from a Decatur family, Miss Boyd, she was, and a pioneer in her own right. Both Mr. Rogers and his wife were educated in the public schools of Decatur and State Teacher Colleges of Oklahoma. They came to Terral, Oklahoma, in 1908. Mr. Rogers taught seven years in Jefferson County's rural schools. In this profession his wife joined him. They were known as Mr. and Mrs. Joe Rogers and were recognized as worthy representatives of the teaching profession.

After leaving the teaching profession, Joe Rogers became engrossed with the study of Agriculture and horticulture. The science of both has engaged his mind and attention for many years. In this his interest has not abated. He has lived in Terral since 1915.

In all his experimental operations, he found a willing and agreeable collaborator in John R. Trout on whose land the "tests and trials" were made. He was a pioneer in developing a system of irrigation of those alluvial lands along Red River valley. When electric service became available in Terral, Joe Rogers was happy. He could now prove his idea of irrigation to be at once sensible and practical. He proved it by doing it. The result as shown by the vegetable, fruit, and other crops could not be other than satisfactory.

Even now at his advanced age, he is happily engaged in small scale operation on his own acreage of a veritable experimental station. He will show a visitor seven varieties of strawberries, five varieties of blackberries; five varieties of blue berries. He is supplementing all of these experiments by growing the most dependable fruits in this area, viz. grapes, plums and peaches.

Uncle Joe says "Of course I can't beat the late freezes, nor the hail storms, but I can prepare the soil and plant the seed. The rest, I am happy to leave to God." And who could do more?

Then, as I was taking my leave from a good visit with my long time friend, he said, "Say, Dyer, tell 'em I am a life long Democrat."

JOSEPH SYDNEY VANDERBURG, TERRAL

This venerable character was born October 12, 1859 at Columbia, Louisiana. In 1869 the family migrated to Texas, settling near Marshall in Harrison County. After a short stay there, the family moved to Panola County, Texas from which location they moved to the Indian Territory in 1891. As was the custom in those days, this trip was made in an ox wagon. On his arrival, after crossing Red River, he sold his oxen and made his first farm crop in Indian Territory on land owned by Mrs. Emily Fleetwood. This crop being made by horse power, this probably was the first farming he had done with horses. In 1904 he moved to Terral which at that time was in her swaddling clothes. Through 1906-07 he was engaged in filing Indians on their allotments.

To his many admiring friends he is familiarly

referred to as "Uncle Joe." He is believed to be the oldest man in Jefferson County. In 1908, he was appointed by Governor Haskell, along with fifty seven other men, to appraise the public school lands of Oklahoma. He was designated as Chairman of this appraised committee. This service he performed in an acceptable manner. His 98 years have taken their toll of physical strength. He is no longer active, and is taking whatever the balance of an unusually long life may be in a quiet manner. His arms are tired and he is resting on his oars.

Uncle Joe, all your friends join in honorable respect to your long life of service. You have given to civilization your full share of commendable service.

R. E. SCHOOLFIELD

R. E. Schoolfield, pioneer druggist in the town of Terral, I. T. was born at Fulton, Arkansas, July 18, 1869. He was a graduate of the State University of his native state.

After graduation from the University he was employed in a drug store in Waldron, Arkansas, for four and one half years. During this period he had considerable correspondence with an uncle, Hugh Schoolfield who was doing a flourishing business at Belcherville, Texas, "up on Red River." From this correspondence, he learned that J. H. D. Terral had leased land from Mrs. Emily Fleetwood for laying out a town site on the Red River near the point of the Rock Island Railroad crossing into Texas. This and kindred reports combined to fire the imagination of R. E. Schoolfield to the point where he decided to leave his native state and cast his future with Terral. His first stop in Texas was at Belcherville where his uncle was in business. This was in April 1892. Here he learned that his uncle, Hugh Schoolfield, had been invited by J. H. D. Terral to become a partner in the Terral Townsite Company and the first lot sale would take place about May 15, 1892.

R. E. Schoolfield and his uncle bought the first two lots sold. Hugh Schoolfield bought a corner lot for \$200.00 and R. E. Schoolfield bought the lot joining immediately on the west of this one for \$150.00. He and his uncle erected the first buildings in Terral.

From that day his life was connected with Jefferson County. First as a druggist in Terral, later in the real estate, abstract and farm loan business at Ryan and at Waurika.

He married a sister to Mrs. Cora Hightower. He became associated with Captain L. B. Upham in the real estate and abstract business at Ryan about the date of Oklahoma Statehood; later, the firm moved to Waurika where he later sold his interest with Captain Upham and moved to Wichita Falls, Texas. He and his wife are now deceased, but the name, R. E. (Emmett) Schoolfield will be remembered in Jefferson County for another generation.

His life began here with the coming of the Rock Island Railroad and the beginning of Terral in 1892. And to say he was a part of all progress that has evolved through the last sixty-five years, would be a correct statement when viewed from the beginning.

MRS. CORA HIGHTOWER, TERRAL

Mrs. Cora Hightower was born in Jackson, Mississippi August 10, 1868. When she was three years old her parents moved to Texas in an ox-drawn wagon. They settled in Waco, Texas for a brief stay, then moved to Montague County in North Texas from which location it was just across Red River to a new settlement on the Rock Island Railroad. This was in 1893.

J. H. D. Terral, Missionary among the Indians, and founder of the town of Terral had barely begun plans for the town which was to bear his name, was another native of Mississippi.

And so Mrs. Hightower was destined to become a citizen of Terral. She is the daughter of James Malone and a sister to Mrs. R. E. Schoolfield and Mrs. J. M. Lewis, who lived in Ryan.

While living in Montague County, Texas, she was married to T. J. Hightower on her 22nd birthday. To this union five children were born, three of whom are now living. They are Grady Hightower, Mrs. Iota Gaddy, both of Terral, and Mrs. Ruth Wray, Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Mr. and Mrs. Hightower moved to Terral in December 1892. Here Mr. Hightower engaged in the mercantile business by opening his store of dry goods and groceries. Soon after their move to Terral, they became actively interested in organizing a church. They, with the co-operation of a few others, met in a home across or west of the railroad, and not far from the present J. R. Trout home and organized the Methodist Church with eight members. This was in March 1893, and Mr. Hightower was the first Sunday School Superintendent. Mr. Hightower passed away in 1906 and Mrs. Hightower is the only surviving charter member of the Methodist Church in Terral.

Terral celebrated the town's Golden Jubilee with appropriate ceremonies August 29 and 30, 1943. Mrs. Hightower was quite fittingly designated and honored as the Golden Jubilee Queen. And well did she deserve it. She had seen Terral develop from its beginning to a thrifty and consolidated community of happy American citizens with churches, schools and all the conveniences incident to a modern city.

"Well done, good and faithful servant."

THE HIGHTOWER FAMILY

It will be remembered the railroad was completed to Terral in 1892. The townsite of Terral has scarcely been surveyed when the Hightowers came in 1893. Mrs. Hightower, familiarly referred to as "Mother Hightower" still lives in Terral and is the mother of the long time merchant-citizen of Terral, Grady Hightower. Since his parents named him Grady, it could be a very strong hint of nativity. The most loved and greatest orator in the Southland was Henry W. Grady of Georgia for whom the village of Grady was named by W. C. Sappington first postmaster of Grady, I. T., now Grady, Oklahoma.

Grady Hightower's people settled in Terral early and have given to the town a heritage of which no one need make any apologies. They are related to the Schoolfield who helped J. H. D. Terral survey the site for Terral in 1892. Hugh Schoolfield was an uncle of Emmett Schoolfield who married Grady Hightower's aunt.

Grady's father passed away many years ago. Mrs. David Wray who is matron of a student Dormitory at Oklahoma College for Women at Chickasha, Oklahoma, is a sister to Grady, as is Mrs. Iota F. Gaddy of Terral. Mrs. Gaddy is the tender, kind and loving attendant of "Mother Hightower."

It is indeed a blessing to any human heart to sit in a thirty minute visit with "Mother Hightower" as only she can relate her experiences and how, throughout a long, eventful life, she relates her trust in God.

Scores and scores of others in Terral and every town, village and community in Jefferson County are worthy of honorable mention. But we must not spend all of our time visiting in one center. We must be driving on, There are many places to go and much to be done before our journey is completed.

So, we repeat, those with whom we visit and whose story we get, are but types of the many we would like to meet.

Now let us drive straight east from Terral about six miles and have a brief stop at Fleetwood.

J. H. D. TERRAL

John Heidleburg Dace Terral was a Missionary to the Indians in the early eighties; the founder of the town of Terral, I. T. in 1892, and proprietor of the Terral Hotel for a number of years.

During this time he engaged in the real estate business to a considerable extent, but his major interest was the development of the Terral townsite.

This unusually versatile character was born at Whitman, Mississippi in 1858. His father was John Terral and his mother's maiden name was Carolyn Heidleburg.

In 1876, he married Miss Missouri Amanda Dubose at Waynesboro, Mississippi. As was the practice of many Mississippi migrants, this Terral family found its way into Texas about 1883. Spanish Fort, Montague County, Texas, became their place of residence for a short time. Then Mr. Terral crossed Red River into the Indian Country in 1885.

When Mr. Terral learned the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Company had received a permit to extend its lines from Wichita, Kansas, through the Indian Territory to Red River, he decided upon a townsite to be appropriately located near the Red River crossing of this railroad. Like all other discoveries, inventions, or accomplishments leading to progress, this town had to exist in someone's mind before it could be translated into a factual existence. This is the manner in which Terral came into existence as a community of people.

The community of Fleetwood six miles directly east of Terral was already named for Mrs. Fleetwood. She, therefore, insisted the name of the new town should be "Terral."

J. H. D. Terral was a forceful, energetic individual. He worked hard at whatever he set himself to do. He secured excursion rates from the railroad to induce people to come to Terral. He made many trips to Washington, D. C. and to Tishomingo, the Capital of the Chickasaw Nation

and surrounding cities and towns to interest people in Terral I. T. For all this service and travel, he and his family and intimate friends who were cooperating in advertising Terral, the railroad had granted traveling "passes." And in return, the town of Terral gave the railroad right of way for their lines and the depot.

If a complete recital of the life of J. H. D. Terral were given it would require a book to do so. Above and beyond a far sighted business man, stood J. H. D. Terral, the Christian man. He was that first; the business man followed. Mrs. Cora Hightower of Terral was personally acquainted with Mr. Terral. Of him, she says "He was a fine man. I always admired him."

At any rate, this man from Mississippi left his tracks in Jefferson County, especially in the town of Terral.

Let us remind you the father of Mr. Sam Ash, Waurika, Oklahoma, purchased the hotel at Terral from Mr. Terral, the builder.



Baptist Church, Terral

This church was organized in 1897. The Rev. J. B. (Brad) Hays was the moving influence in this organization. In this, he was assisted by such well known Baptist pioneers as G. W. McDow, T. T. Ward. Rev. C. Stubblefield of Duncan, I. T., T. L. Hodges and wife were among the charter members. Certainly, there were others, but their names have been lost to the members of the present congregation. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges were grandparents of Mrs. George Davis of Terral.

Mr. Hodges became the first subscriber to a church building fund, giving \$500.00 for this cause. His son, Lemuel, became a Baptist minister. This organizational session was held in the Methodist Church building in Terral.

Mr. S. L. Wray transferred his membership from Ryan to Terral Church in 1922.

This modest beginning of sixty years ago, when churches and church buildings were the exception, has increased in numbers and vision of duty and service beyond anything its founders could envisage. The strongest evidence outside the Bible, of the Devine origin of the christian church has been its demonstrated ability to survive the mistakes and short comings of its members through nearly twenty centuries since its visible organiza-

tion on the earth.

In the wonderful history of God's creation,
Ever and always without cessation,
Has the strength continued to thwart God's
plan

That was intended for His created man.



Methodist Church, Terral.

The record of this church in the organization is clearly revealed in letters and news paper articles in the possession of Mrs. Viola Malone of Terral. It was organized in 1893 by Rev. S. Y. Yelton, presiding minister. Some of the charter members were Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Hightower, Bert Bradshaw, names of other charter members not available. The first pastor was Rev. S. W. Sawyer and in 1894 this church was elected to membership in the Ryan-Terral Conference District. Early members reveal such names as Walter Ellis, Joe Vanderburg.

Throughout the life of this church, has run the silver thread of "teaching and preaching" the message of the humble Man of Nazareth. This thread of service is now more than sixty years long. Hearts and lives have been given in the furtherance of the philosophy of christianity.

Today, as for many years past, this congregation worships in a beautiful brick edifice which is in keeping with the growth of the membership

since Mother Hightower and her husband, together with a few others, presented themselves for Charter membership in 1893. "It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened" Luke 13.21

In the Divine mind all things were known,
God had a plan, all His own,
To redeem man from his unhappy lot
And save him from the Devil's plot.

FLEETWOOD

As in most all settlements of days known as "pioneer days" certain individuals have their names indelibly written into the history of that community, be it usual or unusual.

Photogravures which Mr. Weldon W. Guest of Ryan so graciously placed before us proves historically that Fleetwood was named for Emily Fleetwood, who was Indian by blood, but had married a white man by the name of Fleetwood. This same photogravure reveals clearly the Chisholm Trail crossing the Red River about three miles east of Fleetwood. This historic trail crossed the river at Red River Station as it made its exit from Texas across the Indian Territory into Kansas.

Mr. Weldon W. Guest has in his possession much vital and interesting information related to Oklahoma and Indian Territories as they were fifty and sixty years ago. In fact the Chisholm Trail lost its useful significance when the last herd of Texas Longhorns went up the trail in 1885, twenty years after the close of the Civil War.

Associated with Fleetwood are such names as O. C. Walker who operated a general mercantile business there and was the postmaster. Also his brother, Dr. J. A. Walker who administered through the years to the sick. He made his professional calls on horse-back or by buggy for a long time before Henry Ford had made his first car, or before Brush had built the chain driven car.

Cotton being the chief money crop in those days there had to be a cotton gin. And in season it was as busy as a gin could be. Just as then, the store, the gin and the postoffice are still there, but the management changed long ago.

Once Fleetwood maintained a good rural school and it was even more than a school. It was a Community Center for school programs, preaching, political gatherings, pie suppers, every community meeting was in the school house. No more local school, no more community meetings, but Fleetwood can never die. It may fade away but the place it holds in Jefferson County will last many a day, yet.

The writer was there at a pie auction one night during World War I. We sold the fifty pies to the highest bidder, the average price was \$2.00 per pie and the proceeds of \$100.00 went to the American Red Cross.

What a people! It was the same all over the United States. Little wonder the Kaiser of Germany changed his mind and fled to Holland. Fleetwood helped him to make up his mind.

ADDINGTON



Monument Hill Marker of the Chisholm Trail in memory of the Trail Driver of 1865-1885, near Addington.

Addington is located on the main line of the Rock Island Railroad approximately seven miles north of Waurika. Its name derives from an early day cowman by the name of Pres Addington.

An old paper "The Addington Herald" published there Saturday, Dec. 14, 1901, carries the following advertisement.

"A new and prosperous little city on the main line of the Great Rock Island Route situated on the line between the Chickashaw Nation, I. T. and Comanche County, I. T. is Addington, I. T.

"It is six months old and has more substantial buildings and more permanent business men than any town of its age and size in either territory."

If Addington was six months old at that time, it evidently was founded or had its beginning about June 1901.

The advertisement further says, "We believe in Single Statehood." Evidently the Rock Island Rail Road was among very early advocates of the Single Statehood idea. The particular copy of The Addington Herald was Vol. 1, No. 23 by J. C. Bayne & Co. Another advertisement reads as follows. "First Bank of Addington, Authorized Capital \$10,000. Does a general banking business. Jennie E. Dimery, Cashier." Miss Jennie E. Dimery later became Mrs. John Evans.

This copy of the paper is filled with advertising cards of lawyers, doctors, real estate concerns, grocery establishments, dry goods, contractors.

Three lumber yards, hotels, paper hangers, painters, druggists and a livery barn where one could hire a buggy and team of horses for travel. This was owned by Zack Addington.

From Bowie, Texas this advertisement is prominently boxed. "Buy your holiday whiskies and wines from the Rock Saloon, Bowie, Texas, S. M. Muhphre, Proprietor."

The Addington Brick yard was there as was "Thompson Hardware Company." "The New Home" sewing machine is suggested in one ad at

\$19.00. Still another advertisement by the City Meat Market recommends that every body should try "The finest boneless hams at 12½ cents a pound." A list of city officials shows the following:

J. S. Addington, *Mayor*

E. Pace, *Marshal*

Joe Huffer, *Recorder*

H. P. Southerland, *Treasurer*

J. T. Hawkins, John T. Thompson, J. A. Farmby, J. D. Pace and J. T. Garetson were Aldermen. This list of first city officials in from Vol. 2, No. 45 of the Addington Herald dated Saturday, May 9, 1903.

Among the many familiar names associated with Addington is the name of Joe Huffer and his sons Albert and Marvin. Uncle Joe Huffer, as he was familiarly known, was druggist and post master for many years. During much of this time his son Albert worked with him in the post office. Upon the death of Uncle Joe, Albert became the official post master. In this capacity he faithfully served for many years. He will tell you that for seventeen years he was not out of Addington.

It is to Marvin Huffer that we are indebted for furnishing these old papers which reveal so much of the early days of this unusually interesting community and its enterprising citizens who have, through half a century maintained good schools, built churches, kept pace with the march of progress in those matters which make a better town and country in which to live and rear families.

Addington would not be Addington if we should try to think of it apart from such names as J. L. & Jennie Evans, the Dimerys, the Huffers, the Brices, E. A. Arnold, Moody Franklin, the Kieths, Chas. Headrick, R. McKenney, A. M. Bohn, J. W. McKenney, Dr. G. W. Murphy, Jim Phipps, S. L. Hollister, The Thompsons, H. K. Price, Leo Green and a hundred others.

Dr. Murphy practiced his profession in Addington many years. The people of that town and adjoining areas were "his people." He loved his work and the people with whom he worked and for whom he worked. He was a personal friend to the writer and had manifested this friendship on various occasions in another state before either of us had ever heard of Addington. In fact, before Addington existed, his son, Walter Murphy, taught the Addington school, and was Superintendent for several years. He is presently living a retired life except for light work. He is and has been for a long time the secretary to the Addington Board of Education. A sister, Miss Mable Murphy, is remembered by all who know her as a noble, patient, home loving character who tenderly cared for her aged father, Dr. Murphy, during his long and last illness. "By their works ye shall know them." And Addington is exceedingly blessed in the manner its citizens have translated their citizenship.

Mr. Loyd Edmondson, long time resident of Addington, has been honored by Jefferson County with a lengthy tenure in office as County Tax Assessor. Mr. Eb Ryan from Ryan had been County Assessor and died in office. Mr. Edmondson was appointed to serve the remaining time for which

Mr. Ryan had been elected. That was followed by Mr. Edmondson's election for five consecutive two year terms. He began his fifth elective term January 1957. Evidently an eviable record for any holder of any elective office. This is a portrayal of the type of citizenship Jefferson County affords.

One mile east of Addington is located a large pumping station of the Magnolia Pipe Line Company. This is surrounded by an "oil tank reservoir Farm" which is evidence of the proportions of the pumping station. This plant has been a Jefferson County industry for many years. It is completely modern in every appointment.

Then from this industrial plant, we look over one of the large pasture areas of Jefferson County. It is owned and operated by the Henry Price interests.

Mr. Price is truly an early day resident in this area. Addington would not be Addington if we dis-associate it from Henry Price. Neither would it be Henry Price as he is known without Addington. The Price Township was named for John S. Price, Henry's father.

Now let us look a mile farther to the east and we see a Memorial Marker erected on the top of Monument Hill in the Price pasture. This was erected to the memory of The Pickens County, I. T. Cow Puncher's Association. It recognizes the stout hearted Trail Drivers who drove the herds of Longhorns from Texas to Abilene, and Fort Dodge, Kansas, from 1865 to 1885. This old trail, known as the Chisholm Trail, ran along near the foot of Monument Hill. It was so named from Jesse Chisholm, a noted Indian Trader, who blazed the trail by his many trips into the Indian Country to trade with the Indians. History says of him "he could speak fluently the language of more than a dozen Indian tribes.

Only a few specimens of the Texas Longhorns that were driven up this trail remain as survivors of the great herds which laid the foundation for the cattle domains which is definitely of Texas origin.

These specimens are to be seen only in zoos or segregated spots such as the Wild Life Refuge of the Wichita Mountains near Lawton and Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. In such places, they are protected as rare specimens of a forgotten day.

A BANK ROBBERY

It was a quiet afternoon on October 26, 1928, when the quiet was broken by the crack of a gunshot. The Bank of Addington which was originally organized by Miss Jennie E. Dimery was being invaded by a man with his gun out and in action. His partner was stationed at the front as the "look-out."

This bank was owned and operated at that time by A. K. Gosson, and I. C. McGinnis. Mr. McGinnis is the Cashier at present of the bank at Terral, Oklahoma. He has been in that position since the Bank of Addition was robbed and later was liquidated.

The bank had been robbed on two previous occasions. After this third robbery, Mr. Gosson remarked, "I am tired of being shot at and robbed. This bank is going out of business." And it did, but in a creditable business manner.

Before this third robbery, two peace officers had been shot and killed from ambush while on duty in Addington.

After this County Sheriff, Frank Driskill, appointed "Two Gun" Bill Fowler as Deputy Sheriff and assigned him to duty in Addington, telling him to take care of the situation.

Bill Fowler was on duty when he heard the shot fired in the bank and which barely missed I. C. McGinnis. The bullet flattened itself on the door of the banks vault only inches higher than McGinnis. A gun battle ensued between Fowler and the "outlook."

The entrance door was an inset and a brick support column was some three or four feet from the door. The "outside" party to the robbery took refuge behind this pier and fired upon Fowler. After exchanging shots, the robber exposed his arm to fire at Fowler. That was a fatal mistake for him. Fowler broke the robbers arm above the wrist and the gun fell from his hand. The robber made a run for the get-away car. Fowler had only one pistol on his person that afternoon, but he had a high powered rifle in his car which was near-by.

At this time the man inside the bank came out with the money in a sack or bag. Fowler hurried to his car, got his rifle and shot at the fleeing car which had strayed away with both robbers and the money. In Fowler's statement he said "It was one shot in a million." The rifle ball cut the ignition in the get-away car thus stopping the bandits on short notice. It was at this point in the battle the sheriff or some one from his force in Waurika arrived on the scene.

Fowler had shot one of the fleeing men, who were now a-foot and left him lying where he had fallen. A guard was left with him and his gun was taken from him. Fowler immediately turned his attention to the other robber. Again the rifle went into action. The second bullet from Fowler's gun left the bandit dead on the ground. Returning to where the wounded bandit had been left under guard, both were brought to Waurika. The wounded one recovered and was given a life sentence in prison.

The banks of Jefferson County contributed to a substantial reward for Fowler in recognition of his services in clearing the county of what had all the signs of organized "bank looting parties."

This recital of lawlessness finds its place here as evidence of contrast with occasional out breaks of disregard of constituted authority as of thirty years ago and of the present.

Of today there is not to be found a more law-abiding class of citizens than has Addington and the whose of Jefferson County.

Bank robberies for the most part are undertaken by those who come from areas "out-side" and foreign to the community where they try to ply their arts of getting money in unlawful manners.

But sad to say, there is much of this going on in many locations. As a State much improvement has been made in this "Bank Robbing" business and the picture continues to brighten.

SUGDEN



The Sugg Log House Ranch Home.

This was what is called a "double" log house. It was built 84 years ago. If there is any error in this the exactly correct date is earlier than this. 29

The history of any country, city, town or community is the history of the people who lived and wrought in the place while the development period was in progress, and the results of their labors.

The story of Sugden is a story of romance, adventure and excitement incident to the experience of pioneers when the going was really tough.

It was 1873 when J. D. Sugg and his brother, Calvin, came into what is now Jefferson County and entered the cattle business on a large scale along the Beaver and Cow Creeks including the areas of the present Waurika site and the area of Sugden and the entire surrounding area.

They grazed on this area 40,000 head of cattle a year and hundreds of horses. Many who read this, will remember the kind, gentle colored man, Mart Mitchell, who lived his life on the banks of Cow Creek. Mart Mitchell was Sugg Brothers "horse wrangler." Mart had a cabin those days on Cow Creek not far from the present Cow Creek bridge at the north boundary of Waurika.

Calvin Sugg died in 1902. J. D. Sugg died in Chickasha, Oklahoma in 1925. J. D. Sugg was many times a millionaire at the time of his death.

The town of Sugden is one of two towns in Jefferson County which bear names of millionaires.

They were pioneers and wore the name well. During these days when the going was rough, and especially where the law was made by those who came early and every man was the defender of his just rights, the six shooter was often the defender of law and order.

It is said that on one occasion J. D. Sugg shot three cattle rustlers, who were rounding up a bunch of his cattle one morning before breakfast.

About 300 yards south of the south end of Waurika's main street, and among a grove of fine oak trees, stands what every Waurikan knew as the T. B. Kelley home. Immediately back of this home is to be seen an old "double log house." This was headquarters for the Sugg Brothers spread on which ranged thousands of cattle.

Mr. Grover Gay who lives in the T. B. Kelley home had the following story told him rather recently. It ran something like this.

A party from Decatur, Texas, stopped and inquired if the "double log house" is still there. This party said her father, a Mr. McCracken, built the house in 1865. That date seems somewhat early for this area, though it could be. Evidently there is something to the story, else these people would not have called.

Mrs. Fen Burns of Ringling is authority for this information concerning the log house. Her maiden name was Sugg. Mrs. Burns sister, Mrs. Stamps and Mr. Stamps once lived in this house. Mrs. Burns was frequently there visiting them.

There is little doubt but that if logs could talk much of early day life in this area would be brought out, but which must now remain unheard of by many.

It is both hidden and forgotten history, but its impact on the Indian Territory and this section of Oklahoma was forceful and meaningful seventy-five years ago.

The Sugg Ranch was a fore-runner of things to come. It helped to blaze the trail of the Indian for a much higher degree of civilization than he or the white man had ever dreamed.

Mrs. C. V. Easterling's mother, Mrs. Compton, built the first hotel in Sugden in 1899. She had come with her family from Fayetteville, Arkansas. Mrs. Compton's husband and two daughters died in the journey from Arkansas.

R. P. Grogan had operated a general store in Sugden from 1895. When Mrs. Easterling settled in Sugden with her mother, the community was a thriving little town with a cotton gin, a church that was used for a school. The church was built by the Presbyterians, but was available for services of any denomination.

Bruce Sugg was the owner of a blacksmith shop.

Sugg Brothers ranch dominated the community, since they had leased the Comanche Territory.

Quanah Parker's tribe of Indians would come to Sugden in the autumn and camp on the lake-side. Their tepees were to be seen in every direction. They gathered and sold pecans and Sugg Brothers gave them beef.

The resident physician was Dr. Alba.

C. V. (Claude) Easterling came from Mississippi first stopping in Ardmore, I. T. in 1896. He taught subscription school for two years at Lone Grove just a few miles west from Ardmore. Mr. Easterling was twenty years old at that time. He went to Sugden in 1901, the year of the Big Land Drawing in Oklahoma Territory and one year before Waurika was founded.

At Sugden he boarded in the Hotel which had been built by Mrs. Compton. Later he and Ollie Compton were married. In 1906, Mr. and Mrs. Easterling moved to Waurika where they built a nice home. Later Mr. Easterling served Jefferson County as County Clerk. In World War I, Mr. Easterling served as member and secretary of the draft board. He and his family moved from Waurika to Alice, Texas, where they purchased a Tourist Court. Mr. Easterling is now deceased, but he and Mrs. Easterling had a full and worthy share in Jefferson County for many years.

Among the early names of Sugden, I. T. is found R. P. (Bob) Grogan. He settled in Clay County, Texas with his father in 1874.

Early in life he gave unmistakable evidence of ability as a business man.

His first venture was to erect a small one room store, the material for which was hauled by ox-wagon from Sherman, Texas. This one room store soon became the Benvenue, Texas Post Office.

Young Grogan soon saw a great opportunity for expansion on the north side of Red River in the "Indian Country." He opened a general store at Sugden in 1895. From this store he was supplying the common needs incident to a pioneer country. He went to Chicago and bought telephone boxes before there were any patent rights on this type of luxury, and installed his private telephone line from Sugden to his store at Benvenue on the South side of Red River. His store at Sugden was a bank, post office, newspaper office and on occasions a hotel.

Mr. Grogan was the father of Mrs. Donalds Stuart of Waurika and many Waurikans well remember Mrs. Stuart's mother who passed away from her Waurika home.

In 1904, Mr. Grogan sold his store to Homer V. Bird and Mr. Jackson of Ryan. He then moved back to Texas and entered business at Byers when that town was founded in 1905. He later moved to his ranch home near Byers where he died in 1955. His death removed a highly respected and honored pioneer citizen of North Texas and Southwest Oklahoma. He was a prototype of heroic spirits who would "dare to do" or die in trying. His was the spirit which never learned the use of the word "surrender" and which wrested American Freedom for the tyranny of King George III.

Sugden had a full share in World War I. Her sons gave of themselves in the all out effort to stop the Kaiser in 1917-18.

A son of Ed Day was an early casualty of that struggle.

W. T. F. Bush was a leading citizen of Sugden for several years before Statehood. After all the excitement from the three elections necessary to locating a permanent seat of County Government was over, Mr. and Mrs. Bush moved to Waurika and built the building now owned and occupied by the V. E. Phillips Department Store. Here Mr. Bush lived until his death.

No story could be recorded about Sugden without saying something about Mr. Robert L. (Bob) Gibson. Mr. Gibson's mother was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Sugg of Monroe, Miss. His father was a captain in the Confederate Army. Mr. R. L. Gibson came to what is now Jefferson County before statehood. He organized the Bank of Sugden in 1901. Soon thereafter, Sugden

laid claim to a population of over a thousand people.

While Sugden was east of the 98th Meridian, is only two miles from the Oklahoma Territory which opened for settlement in late 1901. Sugden was, therefore, the marketing point for a large territory to the west.

Mr. George W. Andrews is authority for the fact that "Old Glory," a liquor dispensary, was the first business structure in what later became Jefferson County. This building was located five miles south of Waurika and approximately two miles west of Sugden on the west side of the 98th Meridian.

Mr. Gibson was a candidate for delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1906. He was defeated by Judge Cham Jones of Ryan, I. T. Had Mr. Gibson been elected to this convention, Sugden would in all probability have been named as the temporary County Seat. Mr. Gibson died in 1925.

He was the father of Mrs. Mary Elkins of Waurika. We are indebted to her for much of this information concerning Sugden and its background which rested on the Sugg Brothers and their cattle domain.

Other early day settlers in Sugden, to name a few, the Thompson Brothers. John Thompson conducted a General Store in Sugden for a number of years. Uncle Will Thompson with his other brothers, thrashed wheat and oats all over Jefferson County.

Dr. D. B. Collins, Dr. Dixon were the physicians living in Sugden. Mr. Davie, the druggist, Mr. and Mrs. Smith owned the hotel. Charley Yoder operated a lumber yard. The Maples, the Campbells and many others, the names of whom are not available. The distant years have dimmed memories and few records are to be found.

Most every industry was represented in the little wide-awake Indian Territory town. It was a noted shipping point for cattle, hogs, cotton, corn and wheat.

Changed conditions impressed by changing times have wrought many disquieting experiences for the smaller towns and villages. As of today, Sugden is a mere shadow of her former glory.

Her schools which boasted of one of the expensive school buildings of the county have been consolidated with adjacent towns. The hum of school is heard no longer in the community.

The Post Office which served for half a century has been eliminated.

Just another small town "slipped away" and quietness reigns supreme.

CHAPTER VII

HASTINGS



J. A. Marley, the first settler at Hastings, Oklahoma, and the first residence and boarding house.

Hastings is located in Bourland Township ten miles northwest of Waurika. The Township was named for J. P. Bourland, the first dry goods merchant in Hastings. It was and is, the only municipality in that Township. It was the first municipality organized in what later became Jefferson County from that portion of Oklahoma Territory.

The community was first given the name Bayard. This was later changed when application was made for a post office. The name Bayard was rejected by the postal authorities because already there was a post office at Bayard in another section of Oklahoma Territory.

George Andrews lays claim to being the first citizen. He was there cutting hay and selling groceries before Hastings was.

According to the best information obtainable, Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Parish from Hastings, Nebraska suggested the name Hastings be given to the new town. This name was submitted to the Postal Authorities at Washington and was accepted by that authority.

In the early spring of 1902, the Post Office was duly established, and Mrs. Hopkins was appointed as the official Post Master. Before that time, however, George Andrews would bring the mail for "Bayard," before that name was changed, from Addington, I. T. and would distribute the mail from his grocery store. Andrews was what might properly be termed Acting Postmaster. He was authorized to do this and he did until the official Post Master was installed. It appears from conclusive evidence, that J. A. Marley with his mother and sister were the first permanent settlers. They arrived in September, 1901.

Marley and his mother and sister built the first residence in Hastings. He supplies an excellent photograph of the residence. It was a "residence and boarding house" and was of dugout construction.

The only portion of the residence above ground level is the adobe roof through which the stove pipe is easily discernible.

A Town-site company was organized by the Independent Mutual Town-site Company of Oklahoma, Territory. This promotion company advertised, "Bayard, O. T. Best City In The South." "A Great Railroad Center," "Fine pure Abundant Supply of Water." The irony of this is that when the writer and his wife settled there to take charge of the public school, we had to buy water and pay 25 cents per barrel for the service.

This was in August 1905, however, for a new and undeveloped country, Hastings was and still is a peculiar sort of wonder and amazement in that a more agreeable, and progressive community could not have been found anywhere. Early it became the interest of every citizen to establish a school and to build churches next after a residence.

The Independent Mutual Townsite Company was staffed by F. B. Duke, President, Cloudchief, O. T., F. A. Parrish, Vice-President, George W. Martin, Secretary and Treasurer, Harrison, O. T.

J. A. Marley and C. L. Holland were special agents and thus it was that the sale of lots in Hastings, Oklahoma, Territory was duly legalized and authenticating certificates of authority granted by Warrent H. Brown, Probate Judge of the County of Comanche, O. T.

Hastings, was incorporated early in 1902. The Marley Addition and the Bradford Addition came from a part of the quarter section drawn by Mr. Marley's mother in 1901.

J. A. Marley was a natural builder and promoter. When the Hastings Academy which had originally been built by the Congregational Education Association of Boston, Massachusetts failed, the site on which it was located reverted to Marley. This institution became the Southwest Baptist College by purchase, and since the site was part of the Marley Addition to Hastings. Marley gave the site to the Baptist congregation which had assumed control.

This site consisted of two city blocks and was an admirable location. When the Enid and Ana-

darko Branch of the Rock Island main line was under consideration, and which was built. Marley again gave evidence of his philanthropy to encourage industry, he gave the right-of-way and the depot site where this branch line crossed the Marley Addition.

Mr. Marley makes this further observation, some of the first commercial business adventures in Hastings were as follows: George Andrews owned the grocery store which at first was housed in a tent. G. M. Haddock was there with a livery stable. The Congregation Church was the first house of worship.

J. P. Bourland had the first Drygoods Store, then in short order, came the Bakery, the Meat Market and just about every class of business common to that day. Dr. W. M. Browning was the first resident physician. Further mention is made of him in a later portion of the Hastings History.

Marley and Kinnaman built the Independent Cotton Gin. Yes, and lest some one might think otherwise, there was a saloon. It is the belief of the writer that this last named institution was a Bowie, Texas contribution.

George Andrews recites a some what interesting fact pertaining to the "initial Point" of the beginning of Hastings.

The thousands of wagons driven by those who went to Fort Sill to register literally cut a trail from Ryan, I. T. to Fort Sill, O. T. This wagon trail across the primitive prairies ran about one-half mile west of where Hastings was located, and where George had selected for his grocery business.

Andrews was resourceful, he hired Dick Fletcher to plough a furrow from this trail to his grocery. That night twelve wagons camped around the grocery store. The next day Andrews went to Addington and secured a new supply which had been shipped from Chickasha, I. T. to Addington, I. T. The Main-line of the Rock Island had been built across what is now Jefferson County in 1892. Andrews and Smith were selling groceries, and later the U. S. Mail was brought across from Addington and distributed by Andrews from his store.

Any attempt to recite the annals of Hastings would be very incomplete without the name of Joe B. Steele. He registered at Fort Sill in 1901 and drew a number which entitled him to a claim. He filed on a quarter section which adjoins the Northeast corner of the Hastings town-site. On this claim he built his house. He was active in the organization of Hastings, School District No. 107, Comanche County, O. T. He was elected Clerk of the first school board. Before this, however, he had acted as treasurer and bookkeeper of the Town-site Company.

In 1903 he, W. P. Carden and F. M. English organized the First National Bank of Hastings and Steele was elected Cashier.

One incident revealed clearly the spirit and attitude of Joe Steele. Sorrow had come to the home of an early settler, the baby in that home had died and this was the first need for a burial site. None had been chosen. Where to bury the child was the parents problem.

Joe B. Steele at once proffered a free space on his claim. The site of the tiny grave may be seen there, carefully enclosed in a steel fence.

In those days, Steele was not married. He later married a sister of Dr. W. M. Brownings.

Later, he was engaged in the Hardware business in Waurika, still later, he was associated with the Collier Hardware Company at Ringling, Oklahoma. In 1935 he was Postmaster at Ringling and served in that capacity for fifteen years.

He is presently retired from active life and is living in Waurika and very justifiably lays claim to fifty-six years of full living in Oklahoma. His life has been spent on the side of law and justice with no marks to the contrary. Loyalty to his church and to everything that promotes harmony and advancement toward the making of a better community are indicative of his personality.

In the latter part of December 1901, Dr. W. M. Browning located in Hastings with a Drug Store which he later sold to Joe B. Steele in order to devote his full time to his practice as a physician. Prior to his going to Hastings, he had lived in Terral, I. T.

The "Minutes of the Missionary Baptist Association" as of September 1898 reveals the name of Dr. Browning as Clerk of the Baptist Church at Terral, I. T.

Once settled at Hastings, he and Mrs. Browning early identified themselves partaker and helpers in every movement calculated to be for the best interests of the rapidly growing town.

He and his family were a part of Hastings life for many years. In 1918 they came to Waurika where he resided until his death. Mrs. Browning presently resides in Waurika where she has lived for approximately forty years.

It was in 1901 that another early day citizen and physician cast his fortune with the Hastings community. This was Dr. J. N. Stephens from Texas. Dr. Stephens came ahead of his wife and son, Earl W. Stephens, who was a small lad at that time.

The demand for building material was so heavy that lumber was indeed scarce and difficult to get. One who wanted to build a residence was required to place the order and then it would be supplied in turn.

Dr. Stephens still owned his residence in Texas. He solved his residential problem in Hastings by razing the family home in Texas and shipping the material to Hastings. In 1909 he built the Waurika Hospital which he operated but continued his Hastings residence. Later, he sold the Waurika Hospital to Dr. D. B. Collins who formerly practiced at Sugden. Thereupon, Dr. Stephens opened a hospital at Hastings where he lived and enjoyed a lucrative practice until his death in 1924.

Ownership and operation of the Waurika Hospital passed to Mr. and Mrs. Loy Stout from Dr. Collins.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl W. Stephens have lived through the years of their married life in the "Dr. Stephens Home." Mrs. Dr. Stephens passed away in 1934.

"Earl and Winnie" have literally given freely of themselves to Hastings and her people. Their talents and respective abilities could easily have made a commendable place for them in broader fields, but they have elected to remain with the town and the people which and whom they have known for every day of their mature lives. Earl still owns and operates the Drug Store his father

owned. Improvements have been made in keeping with the times, but in the main it is the same.

Less than two years ago, a citizen of Hastings remarked to the writer, "If Earl Stephens were to sell and move from Hastings, I don't know what I would do."

The "Earl and Winnie" Stephens home in Hastings must know how blessed it is to serve.

This "short and simple" annal would be very incomplete if no mention were made of the following names which will serve as a sample of the many whose names are indelibly connected with the beginnings of Hastings.

Of the three sons of W. H. Floyd who hailed from Tennessee, only one survives. For a good many years Mr. Ross Floyd has been a keyman in the Continental Oil Company at Ponca City, Oklahoma. He enjoys the confidence of his employers and of his fellow employees.

The following names are fresh in the minds of those living who comprised in part the citizenship of Hastings in its beginning days. From Kansas came S. M. Padgett, Editor of the Hastings News. W. H. Floyd and his three sons from Tennessee. W. P. Carden from Kentucky, Will Hearn from Texas, J. P. Brawley, W. H. Ostrander, F. G. Gillespie, A. L. Davis, T. A. Edmonds, J. P. Petty, W. H. Welch, R. R. Hatcher, and E. B. Johnson.

The above list includes the names of some of the business men who owned and operated the commercial institutions of Hastings in the formative period of its existence.

By no means have we named all of them. Certainly, we have omitted names which should be recorded here, but which after the lapse of more than half a century many names have left the pages of memory.

From the above names, only two still survive. Prominent Gin operators in Hastings were W. F. Raborn and C. W. Clift. In the banking business in Hastings the following names will be readily recognized by a number of present day citizens. The First National Bank, later to become the Oklahoma State Bank which claimed such men as E. L. Worrell, President, J. M. Stephens, Vice-President, and A. L. Davis, Cashier. Of this official staff, only A. L. Davis is living.

E. L. Worrell disposed of his banking interests in Hastings and moved to Ryan where he was President of what is presently the First State Bank.

After Mr. Worrell leaving Hastings, the Oklahoma State Bank came under the management of A. L. Davis, Floyd M. Magness, and J. M. Dyer. After a few years, Perry E. Waid purchased the bank and the name of J. P. Petty was added to the management.

And so it continued until Mr. Waid went to Waurika and purchased the banking interests of H. W. Lemons. This bank is the present Farmers National Bank. It has occupied the building at its present location for more than fifty years.

The Bank of Hastings was the first banking institution in Hastings, and the oldest bank between Lawton, O. T. and Ryan, I. T. It had its beginning in 1902 under the management of J. A. Smith, President, J. H. Porter, Vice-President, A. R. Arnold, Cashier and L. C. Wagner, Assistant Cashier. Of this banking staff, only A. R. Arnold survives. Somewhere along the path of this bank's life the management went to C. C.

Stephens, and J. R. (Roger) Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds grew up from a teen-age boy to full grown manhood in Hastings and became a well known businessman of Hastings. For a number of years he has been Executive Vice-President of Walters Bank, Walters, Oklahoma.

While he and C. C. Stephens were at Hastings with the bank they had the grueling experience of having the bank twice robbed. First in 1928 when four bandits took \$1,514.00. They were apprehended a few hours later, and after a desperate gun-battle they were subdued, but this battle left two men, one a Sheriff, dead on the spot the others desperately wounded. Again "lightning struck" in 1930 when four men quietly appeared; three of them inside the bank with guns ready for action, the look-out remaining in the car. Stephens and Reynolds were alone in the bank at that time—a fact which the bandits probably knew. They were apparently satisfied with the \$904.00 pushed out to them and hurriedly left. Of this amount, \$300.00 was recovered when two of the men were captured the following Sunday. The other two members of the raiding party were captured about six months later. When this bandit car was getting away from the bank, Earl W. Stephens happened to observe them and sensed the robbery. He immediately gave chase in his personal car, and a chase it was, the fleeing car observed it was being chased, and that they were being overtaken. A few well directed shots at Earl became altogether too close for safety, furthermore, he had just then realized the seriousness of his situation. What could he do against four armed bandits if he should overtake them.

In those days it was not so easy to alert officials in other towns—thus making escape far more easy than it would be today.

The citizenship of Hastings early evidenced a desire for schools and spiritual training and instruction. To this end churches of the several worshiping congregations were built immediately following the building of homes.

Then came the Public School. It was enough to remind one of the scriptural quotation from Nehemiah 4:6 "The people had a mind to work."

SARAH CAROLINE KUYKENDALL, HASTINGS

Sarah Caroline Kuykendall was born in Mississippi, November 14, 1856. At her advanced age, she can recall many childhood experiences some of which are pleasant memories while some are not.

She remembers watching her mother weave the clothing for the family while her father and uncle were away in the service of the Civil War.

Soon after the close of the Civil War her family moved to Texas. At that time she was a young lady of 17 years. In Texas she met and married Joe Self who was ranch hand and participated in cattle drives up the Chisholm Trail.

She says many of her early years were hard ones and after they had moved to Texas they had to contend with the severe drouth of some years. This forced them to pack their wagon and go in search of work.

Mrs. Self came from a long life line of people. Her grandfather, a preacher, lived to be 114 years old. When he was no longer able to preach stand-

ing, he would preach sitting. He just had to preach.

Mrs. Self celebrated her 100th birthday November 14, 1956. This 100th birthday was remembered at the home of her daughter, Mrs. R. H. Syllender, who lived in Hastings and with whom Mrs. Self lives.

It was 55 years ago that her family moved from Texas to Indian Territory and settled near Pauls Valley. Her daughter married Mr. R. H. Syllender. Syllender drew a claim in the Fort Sill drawing in 1901. He filed on a 160 acre tract near Hastings. Then the family moved to the new home in a new country. After Mr. Syllenders death, the family moved into Hastings where they are at home today.

Mrs. Self, and Miss Sarah Caroline Kuykendall, has seen a hundred years of progress mixed with fears, joys and sorrows.

As a child, she was fearful of the Indians. During the War of 1861-1865, she was torn with dread at the reports from the battle fields.

Later, she was chilled at the terrors of the Red Man. When there was not too plenty of food supplies available, she was haunted at the howling of the wolves as if it were a harbinger of hunger.

But through it all, Mrs. Self has come with a trust in future and a submissive will to Him who sees the fall of a sparrow.



Southwest Baptist College Marker, Hastings, Okla.



Southwest Baptist College Marker on State Highway 5, Hastings, Oklahoma.

In 1903 the Southwestern Association of Congregational Churches founded at Hastings a preparatory school known as "Southwest Academy". This was intended to be a feeder for the Kingfish-

er College at Kingfisher, Oklahoma. The real sponsor of this movement was the Congregational Education Association of Boston, Massachusetts.

A site was secured and a three-story building with full basement was erected. This school was maintained by the founders for a period of three years. In June 1907, the property was sold to satisfy claims of creditors. The Baptist people of Hastings, assisted by citizens, purchased the property and tendered it to Comanche County, and Mullins Baptist Associations on condition these two associations complete the building and maintain a school of Religious Instruction. At that time the name was changed to "Hastings Baptist College". Under new management school opened October 28, 1907 with C. R. Hairfield, President. At the close of this session, C. R. Hairfield resigned. During his services as President of the school he was Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hastings.

For one year the school was maintained under the Presidency of Rev. R. A. Rushing. He also resigned after one year. At this time the Board of Trustees secured a Charter for the school, the name was changed to "Southwest Baptist College", J. M. Dyer was elected President for the succeeding term. During his tenure of nine months, 152 students were enrolled.

Through these years, the school fostered a religious atmosphere that was felt and acknowledged in all Jefferson and Stephens Counties—these being the Counties comprising Mullins Association as they do today.

The Southwest Baptist College was a "Voice in the Wilderness" preparing the way for a greater institution of religious education in Oklahoma. That institution became a reality in Oklahoma Baptist University at Shawnee, Oklahoma.

There are those men and women in a score of different states that are making their marks high in the Ministerial, professional and commercial halls of the nation and who look back with pleasure to Southwest Baptist College.

The Mullins Baptist Association has purchased in connection with the Baptist Church at Hastings, a "Marker of History" in memory of this small school. This Historic Marker will be installed at Hastings this year, 1957.

During the last eight or ten years Hastings has been no exception to the drains forced upon our smaller towns by "These Changing Times". Fine hard surfaced roads, high powered cars, commercial trucks, and search for employment have all operated concertedly to reduce population and business volume. Many towns which one time were pleased to enjoy a halo of glory are now poor reflectors of their former selves.

Yet, notwithstanding all these effects of the changing conditions Hastings still remains a town of Churches—a good high school, and a good trading point. The homes are well kept, signs of cheer and hope reflect from every face and many forces appear to be at work that promise to restore Hastings to even bigger and better things than have yet been experienced. And may it soon come to pass. Hastings, was the writers first love when he and his young bride began there in August, 1905.

THE HASTINGS ROLL CALL

Lest we forget, let the roll call of the names of those who played an early part in the town of Hastings. The following names will be remembered by a few of the resident citizens of today. But for many it may prove dull reading.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Business</i>
J. A. Marley	Real Estate & Insurance
H. W. Floyd	Dry Goods
J. M. Stephens	Physician
W. M. Browning	Physician
W. P. Carden	First Opera House and Dry Goods later.
Huser Brothers	Law & Real Estate
Merritt Browning	Furniture
S. M. Padgett	Newspaper
A. R. Arnold	Banker
Charley Clift	Cotton Gin
Charley London	First Representative of Jefferson County
R. Hatcher	Bakery
Will Hearn and Frank Gillespy	Hardware
Will Raborn	Cotton Gin
C. M. Haddock	Livery Barn
Mr. Dotson	Hotel
Mrs. Wren	Hotel
W.H. Bussey	Furniture
J. B. Steele	Banking
J.P. Brawley	Drugs
W. H. Ostrander	Drugs
Mr. Phillips	Railroad Agent

Ben Sumner	Lumber Yard
Iris Edmondson	Bookkeeper
A. L. Davis	Banker
Col. Hardy Watson	Auctioneer
Gordon Ryals	Cotton Gin
W. H. Clift	Cotton Gin
Newt Figley	Real Estate & Insurance
George Andrews	First Grocery and Postal Service. Carried first mail from Addington.
Will McBride	Barber
Mrs. Walters	Variety Store
Fred Fillman	Photographer
Jack Miller	Water Well Drilling
E. B. Johnson	Dry Goods
W. F. Johnson	Land Investments
Mr. Goodman	Grocery
H. G. Marshall	Furniture
Mrs. Minnie Davis	Teacher
Mr. Pettit	First Telephone Service
B. F. Nelms	Cotton Gin
Marshall Scott	Hardware & Cotton Buying
J. M. Dyer	Teacher
Mrs. J. M. Dyer	Teacher
J. P. Petty	Banking
W. H. Shelton	Boarding House
John Hearn	Hardware
F. Tyndal	Grocery
Aurelia Hubbard	Teacher
Mrs. Morphis	Public School Music
David Hearn	Heating Engineer
J. P. Bourland	First Dry Goods
W. C. Puttey	Carpenter
Mark Risley	Blacksmith
D. A. Kinneman	First Telephone

CLAYPOOL

One mile north and two miles west of the Claypool school was once the location of the Claypool postoffice. This was named for John Claypool, an enterprising citizen of an early day. The postoffice was in a rural store operated by Bob Bolinger. A cotton gin, signs of which foundation may be seen today, was near the store and postoffice.

This community was on the route from Waurika to Cornish those days. Highway No. 70 and Ringling had not been dreamed of by anyone. There was nothing to forecast such changes as were soon destined to come about. John Ringling's dream of a railroad branching off from Ardmore had not been spawned.

The idea of consolidation of rural schools was unheard of when Bob Bolinger had his grocery store and the Claypool postoffice, where he could be rocked to sleep at night by the hum of a cotton gin.

But these dreams began to take hold in Jefferson County about 1921-1922. The showman, Ringling, built his railroad from Ardmore in 1914 and the town of Ringling was brought into existence. Later came the educational philosophy, that the small one and two room rural schools should be consolidated into larger community centers. And it was the several small rural schools which dotted all that area were consolidated into one school district which carried the name Claypool over the present location on Highway 70 approximately sixteen miles east of Waurika.

This has been a very active community from its beginning. In addition to the school which supplied a four year high school course is the Church of which the Rev. S. E. Dickey is the pastor. And the customary store is there; it could not be a community without a store.

The school building has been a community center, not for school only, but for community gatherings of all types. It has seen and heard the politicians as they proclaimed their respective fitness for the office they sought. Parents have been made to feel their life blood surge through their veins a little faster and have felt a glow of pride at the programs the school would present through and by their sons and daughters. It was all theirs. They and their money had made all this possible, good as any community had.

Certainly in and around a civic center people like to build their homes and rear their children.

As the Claypool School District now exists, it is rather interesting to relate briefly, just how and when its present territory was brought together for school purposes. The following information is from the records in the County Superintendent's office. Thanks to Mr. Clifton Edwards, County Superintendent of Schools.

The original district was formed April 20, 1927 by consolidating the districts of Big Valley, Roche, and a part of the Mud Creek District. Two years later, March 1929, Plainview was added. Then, as of August 15, 1941, a part of Oak Hill District was added. These areas combined to form the Claypool School District as it presently exists.

The following names will serve to refresh our minds as to some of the people who have been

a worthy and stimulating force in making Jefferson County what it is today.

We do not recall the names of all, but these will be readily recognized as some of the people who have lived and wrought so nobly.

The S. E. Dickey family, the father and mother with their sons and daughter. The Grace family, Mother Grace went to her Eternal Home while this article was in preparation. There are the Claud Turners, Obed Bennett, Calbin Beams, Elbert Griffin, Laster Gaines, Wes Sutton and J. L. Murphey.

These and their forefathers by their diligent perseverance have contributed in no small way to make us what we are at present.

RINGLING

Before Ringling was; Cornish was. One mile north of Cornish and one and one-half miles from the east line of Jefferson County is the fine little city of Ringling.

It had its beginning in 1914. The founder was the famous show man, John Ringling of Ringling Brothers Circus. The original site came from lands owned by Alex Hammond and P. B. Turner, respectively. John Ringling gave the young city a spirited impetus by building the railroad connection with Ardmore twenty-five miles to the east. The growth of Ringling was immediate and rapid.

Cornish had enjoyed community sovereignty as an old Indian Territory town for many years. Now a young, thrifty city and railroad point had come into existence one mile north, and it carried the name of a millionaire, world famed, showman.

Cornish joined in with a spirit of community co-operation and helped Ringling off to an early start. Cornish, therefore, diminished and Ringling increased. No bitterness, just a moving into bigger environment.

Ringling had what might be figuratively termed, a ready made foundation on which to build. And build she did, nor has the expansion ceased. As of today, Ringling is manifestly the fastest growing town in Jefferson County. Her boundaries have been extended on every side. To the north, municipal reaches have known no bounds, elegant homes and business establishments may be seen everywhere.

Another fact very much in Ringlings favor are the great oil fields north and east. The oil industry furnished employment to all who desired it. The city is within the shadows of hundreds of oil derricks busily searching out new production.

Ringling is a prosperous and happy combination of wealth and co-operation which rarely fails to bring desired results. According to the 1910 population statistics, there were 1083 people within the municipal limits. As of today a conservative estimate is 2000 and new residences are under construction everywhere within the residential area.

The scholastic enumeration of the Ringling School District is far in the lead in Jefferson County. The citizens can justifiably boast of the largest and most expensive school plant in this

entire area. The view of these buildings is beautiful in that the buildings are correlated in arrangement that tends to greater efficiency, and efficiency is the slogan among teachers and patrons.

Prof. Haskell Evans is the Superintendent and he has enjoyed a long and creditable tenure with the Ringling school.

Among the interesting personalities who live in the Ringling area and who have had a part in bringing that area immediately South of Ringling and Cornish to its present state of development are Miss Luna Eubanks and Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Eubanks. Mrs. Eubanks was born at Petersburg in 1885. She has witnessed the passing of the ox-drawn wagon and the advent of the modern automobile. The log cabin residence has been replaced with a modern home. They are the parents of Elton Eubanks, who lives near them, and who is a business man in Ringling. Another son, Judge Eubanks, succeeded Toby Morris when Judge Morris was elected to Congress. Still another son, Oral Eubanks made the supreme sacrifice in World War II. In the by-gone, but never to be forgotten days, Mrs. Eubanks went along in the family wagon which was drawn by oxen to the mill where their corn was ground for supplying bread for the family table. Mr. Eubanks says "Anybody can look at me and know I am 76 years old". This husband and wife, father and mother, are typical of the pioneers who wrought mightily in the rearing of a family of worthy children and loved and toiled through rain or sunshine, the heat and the cold when all they asked was that God should give them the heart and the will to help bring into existence a better day in a better world.

Living in this home with Mr. and Mrs. Eubanks is Miss Luna Eubanks, a sister. Miss Luna was born in 1869 in Whitesboro, Texas. At the age of twenty she came to Courtney, I. T. She enjoys a remarkable memory and can recite experiences that match some of the stories of the middle ages. She has been of material and spiritual assistance to many who have been fortunate enough to walk down the way of life with her companionate advice and encouragement, either along the trails of youth or old age.

Ringling became an incorporated town in 1915. W. P. Harwell was chairman of the Board of County Commissioners at that time. The record shows that the petition calling for the election to decide whether or not Ringling should incorporate was signed by the required 100 legal voters. At this election, 86 voted "yes" and 14 voted "no". (The above is from a paper prepared by Eb Ryan, County Assessor and read before the Ringling Rotary Club June 5, 1951.)

The bank organized at Cornish by J. J. Cloughly just moved to Ringling. Mr. Cloughly toured the financial sheet of the Cornish bank and opened a new account in Ringling as The First National Bank. This institution boasts a long line of satisfied customers some of whom live as far as twenty-five miles from Ringling. As a safe, well managed bank, it enjoys the confidence of a large area of Jefferson County bank customers. The present officers, as listed, comprise such familiar names as W. W. Woodworth, listed as inactive President, A. C. Swinney, First Vice President, E. C. Garner, Second Vice President.

Beautiful homes up and down the length of most every street will impress the visitor with thoughts of comfort and satisfaction afforded those who dwell within. Church buildings stand as living memorials to the Supreme and all wise Creator and testify to the fact of worshipers who believe in a Christian civilization.

The businessmen of Ringling are alert to the best interest of their customers and the community as a whole. One prominent businessman expressed it this way. "Everything we can do to contribute to our trade territory and the County as a whole in a steady growth, will give added strength to the business interest, the schools, the Churches, in fact everything we would like to be."

With such principals in mind, the combined strength of any community can not fail to accomplish favorable and satisfactory results. Therefore, one can but conclude that Ringling is well on the way to an ever increasing future.

CORNISH

Cornish was typical of early Indian Territory communities. Main street enjoyed the customary well from which drinking water was drawn by rope and pulley.

The town took its name from John Cornish, an early settler and cattleman. It's beginning was when Ardmore was a struggling village twenty-five miles to the east. To the west, was wide-open spaces of Indian country to Fort Sill in the Comanche, Apache and Kiowa reservations.

Churches were built, a school was maintained and most all types of commercial enterprise was there to serve the people. There are a few still living who knew and remember many of the citizens who pioneered there and who wrought a civilization out of the rough. Memories have been dimmed by the passing of the busy years and only a few names continue on the tablets of memory. The following names will have a nostalgia ring in the ears of the children and grandchildren of those who laid early foundations for schools, churches and fraternal orders which encouraged Christian citizenship.

John Cornish, Dick Creel, P. B. Turner, Lute Jackson, Cummins, Cloughly, Folsom, D. F. Spradling, Dr. Howard, Dr. Taylor and Mose Harris.

J. J. Cloughly organized the first bank. Lee Jones was associated with that bank. W. S. Gilley was there with what some say was the first blacksmith shop. Joe Bryan was an early day teacher. Rev. Leonard Gage was pastor of the Methodist Church and Tom Dulaney owned and operated the cotton gin. The name Dulaney came to be synonymous with cotton ginning in Cornish and later in Ringling as was J. W. Dunford at Grady. Those were the days when "Cotton was King" in Jefferson County.

Zack L. Boles represented the earliest dry-goods business. Cornish was in Earl Township at Statehood but Perry Earl was there, and a part of Cornish long before statehood.

Then, there was Uncle Billy Cornish, a brother to John Cornish for whom the town was named. Everyone who reads this list of "early" residents of Cornish will need to pause and give credit to

Mrs. J. P. Turner for supplying many of these names, and we are also indebted to Miss Alma Cummins, a teacher in the Cornish school system, for a helping hand.

God is exceedingly gracious in many ways to the human race. One of these is the fact that He uses the minds of those who are blessed with the length of years as repositories of facts until the history can be passed along to younger generations.

P. T. Hamilton who became the first County Attorney of Jefferson County at Statehood, D. F. Spradling was an attorney-at-law. Mr. Spradling later moved to Waurika where he served as County Judge for a number of years. The Baptist people maintained an organization with regular worship services, but no one seemed able to name the first pastor.

A live and active Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge was a fraternal part of Cornish. The horizon could not remain always as it was for Cornish. It has wrought well. Good seeds had been sown. A new birth was to overtake this people and change their community.

With the birth of Ringling and the coming of the Railroad one mile north, Cornish citizens who had pioneered the beginning of a Christian community passed on to the Ringling citizenry all of the best for which they had labored for so long and left forgotten all that may have been deemed unworthy to hand a neighbor.

Let it be said for the cause of history, a few of the Old Cornish homes are yet to be seen in their old places and are occupied.

The citizens make the town. A community of builders and each resident contributes his or her part to the community, large or small, and in their passing, they leave a heritage to society that places their communities in a class with General MacArthur's "Old soldier" "They never die, they just fade away."

THE CORNISH ORPHAN'S HOME

The heart of M. E. (Mose) Harris was touched by the unmistakable need of orphan children back in the days when such blighting neglect and consequent suffering was all too little noticed. At least, when there was no organized effort to relieve helpless children from a situation for which they were in no way responsible.

Mose Harris thought about the business of extending a helping hand to the fatherless and motherless children in his area or any area. He pondered the thought and prayed and dreamed about it until, out of a heart of love and sympathy, he decided if anything positive was done about it in his area he was going to do it. Mose Harris will tell you that God laid it upon his heart and he must respond.

He was not a man of financial means over and beyond the temporal needs of his own family, but in this he was undaunted. He gave feet to his prayers and said "I'm going to build a home for orphans and neglected children right here in Cornish."

Cornish was an interesting small town of the Indian Territory type, and was located half way between Ardmore, I. T. and Waurika., O. T. Being a man of limited means, Mose Harris well knew many of the ordeals and times of stress

through which he would be called to go. He knew much of the way was destined to be difficult but he did not falter.

In February, 1907, he "put his hand to the plow and did not turn back." He had a mind to work, and the first building was under construction. There were so many instances of need called to his attention, that he rented a building and he and his very capable and co-operative wife began the care of orphans before the new building was ready. These children were transferred into the new home as it gained in sufficiency to comfortably house them. The building policy of the founder was to "pay as you go." He realized that it would be far more difficult to raise funds to pay off an indebtedness than to secure operating funds. Therefore, he refused to burden the home with a debt which could so easily wreck all his plans.

It has been freely predicted the home would never be built; and it was alleged that Harris was a dreamer. Be it said in this connection, every worthwhile effort at progress in any direction, and for whatsoever goal, has been made by those brave souls who dared to dream of better things. George Washington dreamed of American freedom from oppression. Thomas Jefferson dreamed of Religious Liberty and freedom of the press. Yes, Mose Harris dreamed; but his dream became a reality as did Washington's and Jefferson's and hundreds of other brave hearts. This has made America great.

The Cornish Orphan's home had friends, thousands of them from far and near. Long before Dale Carnegie dreamed of his philosophy on "How to make and Hold Friends" Mose Harris had learned the art. He walked hither and thither into every nook and corner where he thought of securing a contribution of any kind. He solicited support from every strata of society. Not only did he solicit support, but he got it. People everywhere in Southern Oklahoma recognized the benevolent work he was doing and to which he eventually gave forty years of his life.

The Board of Directors was composed of A. McCrory, W. W. Woodworth, and R. O. Dulaney. In this service, Harris had the unqualified support of such men as Gov. Lee Cruce of Ardmore, Judge Cham Jones of Waurika and many other public citizens of Oklahoma. Financial support came from Texas Friends. Within three years after statehood in Oklahoma, the State Legislature gave recognition to the work by appropriating \$5,000 for the operation of the Home. The judicious manner in which Mose Harris expended this money drew further attention and recognition from the State, and in 1912 the Legislature appropriated \$10,000 for the Home.

A letter of commendation signed by C. J. Longest of Petersburg tends to prove the Home had made a place for its existence in the hearts of the people in every walk of life. The founder of this institution never ceased care of orphan children until the responsibility and demands became burdensome upon his advancing age and his failing strength. This made it apparent his forty years of patient, watchful service should cease. He allowed the Home with all its appurtenances to pass into other hands. Operation of the Home has been discontinued, but the good work accomplished there as the services were bestowed upon 1500 or

2000 children who lived and played there through forty years will be indelibly recorded in the minds of many people for the years ahead and in the Divine Register forever.

MOUNTAIN HOME

This interesting community is located approximately six miles northwest of Ringling. A community of farmers, livestock interests and oil production.

As a school, it was originally a two-teacher school. Adjoining this school district north and east was the Richland school, a single teacher school. At one time when oil production in the Richland District was at it's peak, an oil tank farms were numerous, the assessed corporation value in this one school district was one and a half million dollars. This development extended into the surrounding districts until the northeast corner of Jefferson County became the oil man's paradise.

In 1917-18 the American Red Cross had chapters in most every community. Some stated date would be announced for a pie sale, the proceeds of which would go to the Red Cross. Promptly on the evening of the date the school house would be crowded with men, women and children. The pies were auctioned and sold to the highest bidder. The bidding would be spirited and pies would sometimes sell for five, seven, even ten dollars. The men would vie with each other in evidencing their loyalty in support of "the boys over there".

In this community was quite a noted stock farm known as the Wa-he-jo Farm. This title being made up of the first syllable of each owner's name Warren, Henley and Johnston. Hence Wa-He-Jo with the accent on the second syllable.

Then came the idea of consolidation of schools. Three districts united to form the Mountain Home School being advantageously located between the other two combining districts was the logical site for the new school building.

This school has enjoyed an amiable reputation through the years since the consolidation and was sought after by some of our most capable teachers. Only recently it, like it's sister school Claypool, has lost it's required high school rating in point of Senior enrollment. The school term of 1958-59 will decide what may well be the final determination of our rural high schools.

In connection with the yesterdays of this community, we glance across the pages of memory and find ourselves hanging on to the names of some of the Mountain Home citizens who were active forty years ago in the affairs of this interesting community. We easily recall a Mr. Odom, George Faulkner, M. O. Dye, currently living in Waurika. Then we turn to another of memory's pages and see such names as Henry Autry, Bill Nelson, John Massey.

This is a spot in Jefferson County that has had

a part in the progress of our County and State. They have played the part well in the lifting of our county from its infancy to a full grown unit of Oklahoma.

The original consolidation came by the uniting of three Jefferson County schools. They were Mountain Home, Richland and Center Point, north; there being another Center Point, South of Cornish, they were designated as Center Point north, and Center Point South.

Later, the Asphaltum school was consolidated with the Mountain Home district. Then this huge district reached across the County line into Stephens County and embraced Dixie, an old Indian Territory community of no mean proportions. But Mountain Home had not yet attained it's full growth. This time Prairie Chapel was added; thus, Mountain Home had grown from a single school district to extend herself into a combination of six districts. All such consolidations were brought about by majority votes of the district so affected, hence were voluntary movements. They believed in the doctrine of Strength in Union.

All of this consolidation brings afresh to our memory such names as Tommy Burns, Will Newman, Tom Jackson and Dr. S. S. Garrett of the Richland district. In the Prairie Chapel district, many will remember Andrew Branch and W. A. Davis. We easily recall Lee Stallings and Jephtha Stallings and Mr. Nolan of the Asphaltum district. And to the Mountain Home district we think to add such names as Mr. J. H. Pryor, Joe Richards, Bill Ritter, E. T. Autry, and George Byram. Bill Ritter and George Byram may have been a part of the old Richland district, eitherway, they came to be identified with Mountain Home upon consolidation.

This school and community has enjoyed all the fruits of consolidation and co-operation for a number of years. In this policy of co-operation, they paid the price of giving off and taking on.

It is a wonderful feeling to be in a world, or a community that is willing and able to supply it's citizens, present and future, with competency and reliability. These have been plainly visible in this largest and wealthiest school district in Jefferson County.

Changes are similar to wild geese; they come and go. Changes in the high school enrollment affected this district as it did numbers of others in Jefferson County, as throughout the entire state. This fine old district of a high class of school patrons and citizens is currently denied its high school as of 1958-59. It may prove to be a price too high to pay.

It is with sincere gratitude that we acknowledge the help of Mrs. James Waid and her brother, Prof. Dick Pryor, in accumulating this information relative to the Mountain Home Community. Mr. Pryor taught the Mountain Home School for a number of years.

FROM LONGHORNS TO WHITE FACES



One of the Payne Hereford Ranch bulls.



From Longhorns to Whitefaces.

Gone are the Texas Longhorns, except a few specimens which are maintained in game and wild life preserves under the watchful eye of the United States Government.

But the remote descendants of the Longhorns that went up the Chisholm Trail three quarters of a century ago are to be found today in the many varieties and grades of cattle to be seen on the vast expanses of Oklahoma's cattle industry.

Some ranches are stocked with what is commonly called the White Faces. Some prefer the Black Angus breed. Some the Red Poll and so it goes; each breeder to his own liking. These and more are to be found on ranches in Jefferson County. It shall be our purpose to offer here a brief description of some of these ranches.

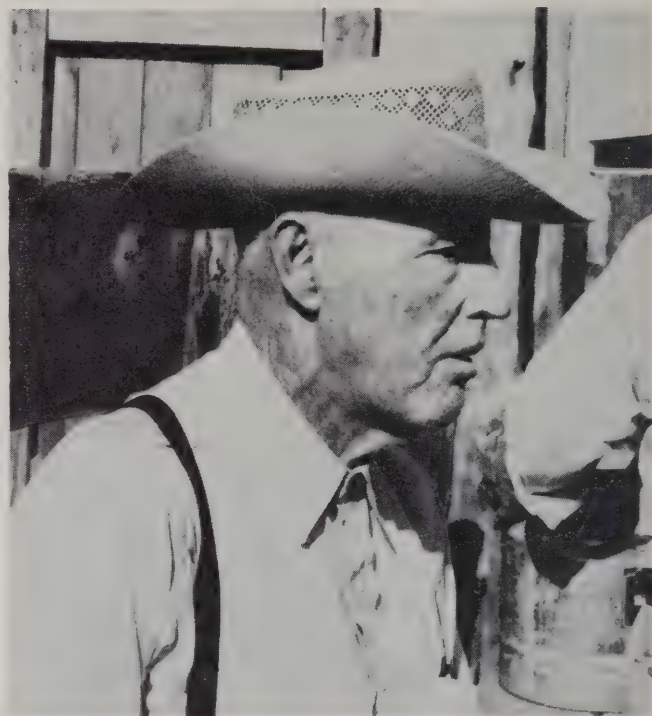
As one goes over Jefferson County East, West, North or South these interesting ranches and the herds they contain are ever a source of wonder and interest to any who will care to observe.

Therefore, we shall conclude our humble effort to produce a story of Jefferson County and its progress through fifty years by reciting enough of the history of ranching activity to enable the reader to, perhaps, more properly evaluate the progress that has been made.

Remember as you may read of these different ranches, we are able to survey only a limited number of them.

Remember also, that three-fourths of Jefferson

County's areas is devoted to the cattle industry. Hence, our entire economy is wrapped up in the Herefords, the Black Angus, the Red Polls and other breeds that prevail in our county.



Henry Price, Addington, Okla.

To briefly describe the location of this extensive ranch is to place it east and north of Addington, Oklahoma. Its eastward reaches begin where the east boundary of Addington ends. As these Price Ranch grazing acres extend eastward they also stretch to the north and to the south, taking in section after section of fine grazing land on which roam White Face Herefords, herds of which may be seen here, there, and farther on as you drive east.

Mr. J. S. Price, father of Mr. Henry Price, began this ranch in 1886. He came to Pickens County, I. T. from Jacksboro, Texas. He was familiar with cattle and good grazing lands. He was not mistaken when he selected the area which now comprises the Price Ranch as it has grown through the years.

He passed away in 1917. It was the first year of our entry into World War I, that J. S. Price attended his last "round up" in this life. But in these thirty years of his life as a "cattleman" in Oklahoma, his son, Henry, had grown up with the cattle business until he, too, came to know all its phases and demands. Henry had been trained well in every detail. In a few words it may be properly said, "he knew the cattle business." He was no novice. With Mr. Henry Price the development and growth, together with the production of beef animals, was an art coupled with intelligent management at which he was adapted. And, as his father before him did, he, too, has consistently trained his own sons in the same business.

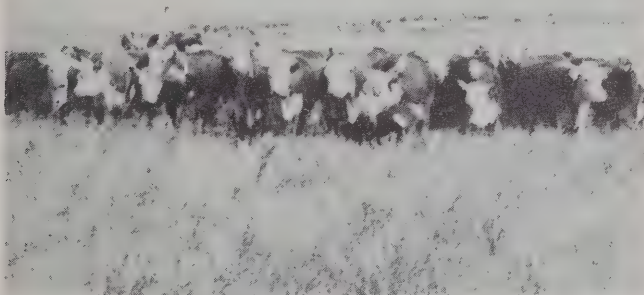
When he can no longer care for this vast "run of herds" he has seen to it, that another shall be-



The Henry Price Ranch Home.

gin where he quits off and carry on in the same fashion.

Thus the continuity of the Price Ranch is preserved and passed on from father to son with such modifications and additions as changing times and conditions demand. The old Chisholm Trail crossed the present reaches of this ranch from the southeast to the northwest, veering around the base of Monument Hill, atop of which is to be seen the Memorial Monument erected by donations from the "Trail Drivers" who hold their annual conclave a mile north of Monument Hill under the dense shades along the banks of a small creek and in one of the Price pastures.



Henry Price Herd.

Frank Reeves, photographer, Fort Worth, Texas

In 1956 the crowd which met there for the barbecue and Trail Drivers annual meeting was estimated at 15,000 people. Old followers of the Chisholm Trail were there, a bare few, but sons and daughters from Fort Worth, Dallas and San Antonio, Texas, were present to offer their homage to a generation of pioneers who gave generously of themselves in a day when means of transportation were so very crude and limited. It was a long drive from San Antonio, Texas, to Leavenworth and Fort Dodge, Kansas, which were the closest railroad points from which the Chicago markets could be reached.

There were hazards to contend with every mile of the drive. Swollen streams to be crossed, unfriendly Indians to stampede the herds, a long tiresome drive which frequently involved a weariness and serious illness induced by exposure to violent and turbulent conditions of weather. A violent thunder storm with electrical displays flashing from horn-to-horn was ever a thing to be feared on the trail. Always such storms would strike terror to a cattle herd thus causing a runaway stampede which would scatter them miles off the trail. Such were some of the hazards of

the Trail for nothing would stop a stampede.

Mr. Henry Price is no longer active in the business in which he grew up, but is living a quiet, retired, but enjoyable life at his beautiful home just east of Addington.

He is of the old school of integrity, sincerity, and experience born of a long, useful life spent in operating a business founded on the principles of fair treatment and square dealing. This meant nothing short of doing to the other fellow what you would have him do unto you.



Charley Beaver Ranch Home.

Will Edwards came from Texas about 1893 and settled in Pickens County, Indian Territory. C. A. Beavers came from Texas to Pickens County, Indian Territory in 1884. It was a strange quirk of luck that drew these two young men together. The acquaintance this formed ripened into a warmth of friendship and trust which drew them into a partnership that lasted for 33 years.

This partnership gave a name to the Community which was known throughout Southern Oklahoma as the E. B. Ranch. The partnership of Edwards and Beavers in the cattle business was originated and agreed upon in 1897. There was no written agreement. No papers certifying the "partnership fact" were recorded. An oral agreement between Bill Edwards and Charlie Beavers was their bond, and was complied with in every detail and no questions asked.

The +L (Cross L) brand was the only visible proof of this partnership. A good rural school house was built. The school district was known as the E. B. Ranch district. This early became a community center for a wide area of rural and ranch life. Religious services were conducted there; political rallies and gatherings were welcome at E. B. Ranch. The life of this entire area, educational, religious, political and social revolved around this school house. No one ever had to pay one cent for the land on which this school house stood. No Sir. The E. B. Ranch donated it gladly. This school, as have all of its class, has been dissolved, and only recently has the building been moved away.

The +L, Cross L, brand on Whiteface Herefords ranged over approximately 10,000 acres of blue stem pasture for 33 years. In so far as Bill Edwards and Charlie Beavers were concerned this type of David and Jonathan partnership could have existed on and on "until death do us part."

But they were men of care and good judgment. Each had a family. Sons and daughters with all their interests must be recognized. So on what they probably regarded as the most important consideration in life was the welfare of loved ones "when our hands no longer guide the future destiny of our families."

The Edwards and Beavers partnership was terminated in what is easily one of the clearest demonstrations of true fellowship and genuine regard, each for the other, in customary business relations. Sitting on their horses with one leg resting around the saddle horn, they resolved the partnership of 33 years, standing, exactly as they had formed it. There were no agreement papers to sign. These were signed and sealed in the hearts of Bill Edwards and Charlie Beavers and witnessed by the Power that created the soil on which the cattle roamed.

Every acre of land and every animal with the +L brand was divided and agreed upon. Thus, the Edwards-Beavers Ranch became two ranches by common consent.

Mr. Howard Edwards and his mother survive Will Edwards and they are fulfilling every hope and confidence the husband and father had to leave to them. Howard Edwards learned in the saddle as he and his father rode the range together. Will Edwards left a worthy son.

Charlie A. Beavers still survives. He remains active in the affairs of the ranch, but must necessarily be content with a limited physical ability. His son, Charlie A. Beavers Jr., is in hearty co-operation with his father, and is a young ranchman in his own right. His holdings lie adjacent to those of his father.

Then there is Charlie A. Beaver III coming up in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beavers Jr. He will have to undergo a lot of training to follow in the tracks of his father and grandfather, but he is young yet, and has a lot of time.

These are only a few of the factual experiences of these two partners who developed one of the leading ranches in Jefferson County, but enough, we trust, to portray the type and character of the old time cowman who helped so materially to build Oklahoma.



The C. H. Featherston Ranch Home

The Featherston Ranch is approximately twelve miles east and six miles north of Addington, Oklahoma. It, like the Dillard Ranch, lies partly in two counties. The smaller portion of this ranch

spreads into Stephens County. The greater portion of this 12,000 acre spread is in Jefferson County. The magnificent ranch type home being in Jefferson County. This home is well planned, beautifully finished inside and out. Spacious rooms abound all through the one hundred feet of sprawling reaches. A large patio adorns one side of the building, and every foot of floor space is conveniently planned for the utmost utility.

Mr. and Mrs. Featherston bought this ranch in 1947. He is a native Texan. They own a home in Wichita Falls, Texas, to which they occasionally return. But they can't raise White Face cattle in the city. This ranch is a well and profitably planned out-door business which they love.

The aggregation of residences for employees forms a colony within itself; there being about twelve buildings of various sizes and types, plus barns, work shops and other utility enclosures.

This ranch, when considered from its various phases, more nearly approaches the type and style of the Texas ranches of fifty years ago than any we have seen in a long time. It is unique, yet modern, in every angle. And the owners are just as appealing in their entire attitude. They will impress any one with a fraternal atmosphere.



The R. N. Howard Ranch.

Approximately four miles southeast of Waurika is the ranch home of Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Howard.

Mr. Howard is a native son of Oklahoma, having been born near Grady in Jefferson County. When asked if he were born at the U. S. Joins home, he replied, "No, but my father once lived there."

The R. V. Howard ranch is a well and conveniently appointed property on which a herd of high grade White Faces graze. Mr. Howard specializes in the breeding and raising of registered White Face Bulls. You will find more extensive spreads and larger herds in Jefferson County, but the type and quality of cattle on the R. V. Howard ranch is rarely excelled anywhere.

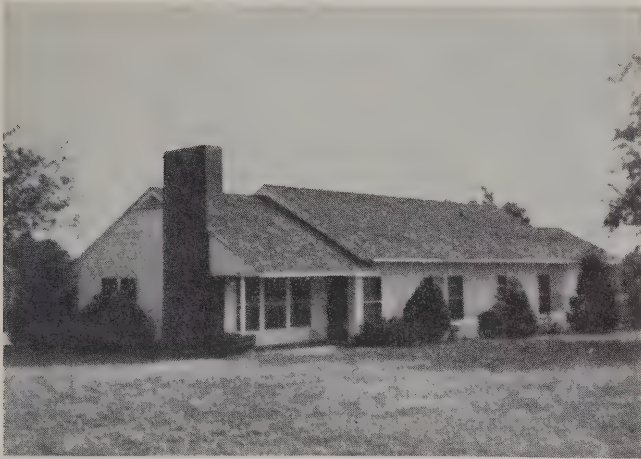
With the Howards, the foremost matter in their plans was the establishing and maintenance of a Christian home. A home where a Christian influence prevailed in all their endeavors.

They believed the scriptural injunction: "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

One son is a minister and is presently pastor of a Church in Oklahoma City. Another son elected to follow the father and is a professional stock-

man in his own right and has his own ranch. A daughter is the wife of a Ministerial Student in the Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas.

If I were asked what Mr. and Mrs. Howard's business is, I would say, "Raising pure bred cattle for the Lord."



J. B. Morgan Ranch Home.

This ranch is well located along the north of Highway No. 70 about seven miles east of Waurika, Oklahoma. It was once known as the Grover Robinson ranch. Later it was the George Price Ranch. As of the present it is owned by Mr. J. B. Morgan who personally operates the 1,100 acres including, probably some leased land.

It is well appointed as to location, quality of grass and abundance of ponds which are now filled with water from the spring rains which all cattle men enjoyed. A nice residence, plenty of first class buildings incident to a cattle ranch of this size.

Mr. Morgan is a son of Alabama, by way of Texas to Oklahoma. And, as is usual, it is White Faces for him. The Hereford breed of cattle predominates in Jefferson County. This will hold true throughout the State. There is a reason for this. This breed is hardy and yet given to rapid growth in addition to the qualities as a beef animal.

One breeder of the Whiteface Hereford claims that pounds of beef produced per hundred pounds of feed is higher than any other breed. Any way we take it, J. B. Morgan has a nice ranch of the area and is happy in his work.



Arthur Grundy Ranch Home.

Eight and one half miles east of Waurika, Oklahoma, and on the south side of Highway No. 70, is the Arthur Grundy Ranch.

Another attractive location. Mr. Grundy bought the larger part of this ranch from Lena Post Oak, the allottee under the direction of the Dawes' Commission. Mr. Grundy owns another ranch a few miles north of this one, but he is probably partial to this 500 acres because there are 1500 pecan trees growing on this one, all of them bearing and of which there are 250 paper shells that have been in production for several years. The north ranch is larger in area and we find Whiteface herds on both ranches.

Arthur enjoys slipping away from the City Drug Store for a drive out to either of these properties where the green grass grows luxuriously when seasons are favorable and man can commune with nature and nature's God. Few there are who would not enjoy the change.

Mrs. Grundy, Maurine, has been a teacher in the Waurika school for a number of years. She, too, can enjoy the cattle, the pecan orchard, the big out-doors and the freedom for awhile from books and things commercial.

Mr. Grundy is a believer in good farming and good ranching and dependable merchandise. He is as careful and attentive to his out-side affairs as he is in the City Drug Store.

If he thinks a tame grass is better, he plants it. With him and a part of his philosophy is "do your best, be your best, and treat your neighbor the best."

We tip our hats to you and yours for your labor as citizens to forward and improve the interests of Jefferson County.



The Payne Hereford Ranch residence.

Highway No. 70 could very fittingly have been designated "The Ranch Highway" in Jefferson County. Through its length of 27 miles from Waurika to the Carter County line is almost a solid stretch of ranches on either side. This is true east of Addington, Sugden and Ryan, as it is of Waurika.

This understanding will support a statement formerly made in this story of Jefferson County, that three fourths of Jefferson County's 900 square miles is devoted to the cattle industry, hence our entire economic balance is tied to the ranching industry.

The Payne Hereford Ranch comprises some where near five or six thousand acres where high grade cows and registered bulls roam at will. There are, also, 100 registered cows in this herd.

A beautiful home complete in every appointment adorns the crest of a gentle slope approximately one quarter of a mile south of Highway No. 70. All buildings are in fine condition and betray a lot of care and labor in their respective appearance. One thing that would impress any visitor to these Jefferson County ranches is the well kept condition and appearance of all the improvements. You see nothing of the "sloppy" appearance that was sometimes seen on ranches of a half century ago.

Before her marriage to R. D. Payne, Mrs. Seay was the widow of the late Oscar W. Seay whose career as a successful cattle man and a pioneer Jefferson County citizen is delineated in the Chapter on Oscar, the school and community named for him. Her son, Alec Seay, lives on his ranch south of the Payne Hereford Ranch. His ranch is about the same area as that of Mr. and Mrs. Payne's.

While all of these ranches present in their own particular way a very interesting study, there is a common thread that runs through and is a part of all.

They necessarily follow a pattern which is a part of the owner and the help. Invariably, the residences are roomy and attractive, nothing small about the homes or the sheds or the barns, No Sir! Not at all. It takes a rancher to do big things and in a big way. And whether we appreciate it or not the fact remains that Jefferson County's cattle ranches will rate along with the best to be found anywhere. They are helping to feed the world.

The Payne Hereford Ranch is noted for the prize winners it has produced. In 1952, Mr. and Mrs. Payne exhibited a bull in the Texas-Oklahoma Registered Stock Show at Iowa Park, Texas. This animal had been raised on the Payne Ranch and took first place at this exhibit. Encouraged by their showing at Iowa Park, they then placed him in the ring at the State Fair in Dallas, Texas. Here, this bull was matched against some of the best of Texas bulls. He won first place in the Reserve Champion contest at Dallas. This put the Payne Hereford Ranch on the map. Texas can justifiably lay claim to the "biggest" in many ways, and the Texas ranches are in the big class, but at Dallas the Payne Hereford Ranch bull of Oklahoma was the best. The Tri-State Fair at Amarillo, Texas, was the next exhibit in which this bull was entered. There he was in competition with the best of Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma. He came away from this show with another "first." This animal and a half-brother were entered as "a pair" in a number of fairs and were never defeated. In exhibiting this bull a number of times and in various classifications, the Paynes decided to try a new class exhibit. On this ranch were two bulls and two heifers all sired by this prize winner. The Paynes exhibited these as a foursome of two males and two females. Every where they were shown in "four-some" they took first prize.

All of this, and more, is a part of Jefferson County. Step forward, Doug, you and Lena, and take a bow. Jefferson County and Oklahoma extend to you, and to all of your fellow ranchmen, our appreciation and best wishes for your continued success.

Our farmers and ranchers have done a mar-

velous job all through five or six years of searing and devastating drouths. Every one has done a wonderful work and all are happy at the change to more favorable conditions.

Let every body be thankful for such citizenship.



The Elbert Griffin Ranch Home.

This ranching property will be remembered by some of the "Old Timers" as the Porter Ranch. It was owned by Horace and Luke Porter—brothers.

About forty years ago, Mr. B. F. Griffin, father of Elbert Griffin, bought this ranch from Porter Brothers. Upon the death of B. F. Griffin, the present owner succeeded the father. It was a "father and son" ownership and management. That happy combination holds to-day; since James Griffin returned from his military service to civilian life, he has assumed a large share of the operational duties on the ranch, thus relieving the father of the entire management. One does not have to stay long at the Griffin ranch to see who absorbs a lot of the heavy duties incident to running an 1800 acre ranch of Whitefaces and caring for a bunch of registered bulls.



James Griffin Ranch residence on the Elbert Griffin Ranch.

This ranch is no exception to being admirably located on Highway No. 70 as are all of the ranches along "Hereford Highway." However, the Griffin ranch is divided approximately into halves by the Highway No. 70. Mr. and Mrs. Elbert Griffin living in a lovely home on the south side of the highway, while Mr. and Mrs. James Griffin live on the north side conveniently close to provide mutual help or needed assistance. If this is not a happy combination it would be difficult to find one anywhere.

This ranch has been an inviting property through the past half century and before No. 70 became designated as a Federal Highway. Its location is a sightly one.

It is no wonder why Benjamin Franklin Griffin from Texas admired and bought the ranch from the Porters. Yes, there have been many additions and improvements added under the Griffin ownership.



Laster Gaines, Sr. Ranch Home.

When Sylvester Gaines crossed Red River from Texas in 1891, he was seeking a location where he could engage in the cattle business. He found this location, which met all the expectation he had ever entertained, in that section of the Indian Territory which was destined to become a part of Jefferson County, Oklahoma, sixteen years later, and which is known today as the Laster Gaines Ranch.

Sylvester Gaines and his family began as pioneers in a country which liberally rewarded them for their industry and intelligent management. Their supplies were hauled from Nocona, Texas. Means of transportation being what they were in those days, it required two days to make the round trip. However, this was nothing but a task that was to be done and enjoyed by those who had pioneered in Texas. And when statehood became a fact as of November 16, 1907, Sylvester Gaines' labors had been completed. The Gaines Ranch was founded on good business principles and was stocked with cattle and such types of equipment as was expected to be seen on the ranches of that day.



Laster Gaines, Jr. Ranch Home.

When Sylvester Gaines died in 1907, his oldest son, Laster Gaines was sixteen years old. But these sixteen years had taught him and grounded him in the managerial affairs of the business. Therefore, the Gaines ranching business went on. Business was as usual so far as "the cattle business went."

Standing back of her children was the pioneer mother, Mrs. Florence Gaines. She and her children must carry on in the way and manner to which they had been accustomed.

The oldest of the children was a daughter who is presently Mrs. Roy Murphy. Mr. Lunsford Gaines is foreman on the Roy Murphy Ranch. Another daughter, Mrs. Ruby Moorehead, lives in Fort Worth, Texas, which has been her place of residence for the past fifteen or twenty years.

The blood of the pioneer father and mother continues to surge through the veins of the sons and daughters of Sylvester and Florence Gaines. Mrs. Florence Gaines died in 1954. She and her husband are buried at Ryan, Oklahoma.

The present Gaines ranch consists of 3,000 acres of deeded land. This area is supplemented by some leased land which adjoins the deeded land.

This ranch is presently operated by Mr. Laster Gaines with the co-operation of his son, Laster Gaines, Jr. Thus, it is another happy and convenient combination of operation by father and son.

Their respective residences are located near each other and as it was a father and son combination with Sylvester Gaines and his son, Laster, the plan is repeated in the present management. A ranch is a sea that salts the children that grow up on it and equips them to carry on in the tradition of father and mother.



Claude R. Turner

Back on Highway No. 70 and a few miles east is the Claude R. Turner 1500 acre ranch. This is termed the "home" ranch by the Turners.

This is also an exclusive Whiteface ranch of high grade cows and registered bulls. The residence occupies a beautiful setting on the north side of the highway and one fourth mile off. This home is built of Austin Stone which contributes in a large way to its beauty and permanent stability.

We failed to contact Mr. Turner, but Mrs. Turner proved all of the attributes of a wonderfully co-operative hostess. She does know the Turner Ranch and can give all necessary information as a good cow-hand might do. Just like all true and deserving mothers she will tell you, when asked about their son, Claude R. Turner, Jr. Two weeks after the Pearl Harbor debacle, he was awarded a pilot's commission in the United States Air Force. And into World War II he went

and became a participant in many of the combats that followed all of which he survived.

One of the strange situations which often follow the desperate onslaughts of wars overtook young Claude Turner. He now lives in Tokyo, Japan, the very city he would no doubt have helped destroy had such orders been given him.

But now it is so different. Claude R. Turner Jr. is presently Chief Pilot in the Japan Air Lines. Be it understood these are commercial air lines in pursuit of a part of the passenger service and commerce of the world. Beautiful indeed are the paths of peace.

This will explain why the Claude Turner home in Jefferson County is a veritable Curio Shop of Japanese products. The mother has a beautiful piece of glass ware which was sent from Japan. It is the same type and material as that from which the Emperor sips his wine. Dozens of other items from the same source decorate a Curio shelf in the Turner home. "But," says Mrs. Turner, "These, pretty and interesting as they are intended to be, still they are not alive; they don't breath and graze on the pasture like Whiteface Herefords do."

So there you are! Mrs. Turner and her husband like the cattle business. They can see results from their labors and enjoy together the benefits of their combined efforts. This, if you please, is the American way, and we like to believe it is the best way.



R. C. Murphy Ranch Home.

J. C. Murphy, father of R. C. Murphy, was a native of Tennessee. He came to Indian Territory and settled in the area of Claypool and Cornish in 1903 when his son R. C. Murphy was 16 or 17 years old.

The father died in 1928. Thus, R. C. (Roy) Murphy was then 21 years old and the wide prairies with the blue-stem grass covering every acre were awaiting the touch of his diligent hands and resourcefulness to activate them to production. The ownership of a ranch was the ambitious goal of Roy Murphy. It took only five years after the death of his father to begin the realization of his heart's desire. In 1933 he launched his career as a bona fide ranchman in Jefferson County. He purchased a ranch that had been owned and operated by Mr. Dell Seay, son of Mr. Oscar W. Seay. This ranch comprises something over 4,000 acres on which he runs a fine herd of Whiteface

Herefords of high grade cows and registered bulls.

Mrs. Murphy is the daughter of Sylvester and Florence Gaines, and her brother, Lunsford Gaines has been foreman of this ranch since R. C. Murphy began operating in 1933. It might be called well nigh a record for Mr. Gaines, since he has held this position for a quarter of a century. This fact reveals more than twenty-five years of service; it reveals a quarter century of satisfactory service. And that fact reveals twenty-five years of fair dealing; fair treatment and "square shooting."

This R. C. Murphy ranch is located approximately 20 miles east of Waurika and one mile south of Federal Highway No. 70. It is well located and represents a lot of planning and first class improvements in all of its appointments. No more desirable or beautiful site for the Austin Stone residence could be found this side of the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina or Tennessee.

This setting is perfect amidst a lovely grove of large native oak trees which have been there a thousand years waiting for some enterprising soul to come along and erect a beautiful building for them to shade. They have to wait no longer. Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Murphy have fulfilled every invitation nature has extended to a "Home on the Range."



The Josiah H. Dillard Home, Ringling. This is the home where James Dillard was born and reared.

Josiah Hamilton (Foote) Dillard was born at Greenwood, Mississippi. When a child he moved to Indian Territory. His ancestry was French-Indian of the Choctaw Tribe.

His first ranching interest began in Carter County near the present town of Wilson. He later moved to what is known as the Dillard Ranch just east of Ringling and on Federal Highway No. 70. Here he spent the rest of his life developing to a great extent the ranch as it is known and admired to-day. But when he passed away, he was fortunate to leave worthy sons in whose care, with their mother, the Dillard Ranching business has not suffered. Indeed these sons have wrought well. Many valuable and modern ranching additions have been added by these enterprising young cattlemen, James H. Dillard and Jerry H. Dillard. Young James Dillard and his brother, Jerry, have been winning blue ribbons and first prizes by their show animals at County Fairs since they

were teen-age school boys. These young men are presently operating separate ranches. Jerry operates 3000 acres of the original Josiah Hamilton (Foote) Dillard ranch; and James operates 8,000 acres of which three and one half sections reach over into Carter County, this being the second Jefferson County ranch astride a county line. The other one being the Featherston Ranch which reaches north into Stephens County.



James Dillard Ranch Home

In addition to this deeded land these two ranches include some leased land. These brothers are partial to the Aberdeen-Angus breed of cattle. This breed of cattle has no horns, black in color, short neck and legs, and a short, wide head. They originated in Scotland and are noted for beef production. Beautiful animals they are. The Dillard Ranch is exclusively an Aberdeen-Angus ranch. The photograph accompanying this is that of a bunch of 9 month old bull calves of the Aberdeen-Angus herd. A studied observation will help to reveal something of what they will be by the time they are twelve months old.

The James H. Dillard ranch home is a type not often found in two respects—size and type of construction. In the first place, its dimensions would startle occupants of some of the English or French Castles of Medieval Europe. The entire length is more than 200 feet. The foundation assumes the shape of the quadrant of a large circle. The floors are cement overlaid with a beautiful, matched hardwood firmly fixed in place with wooden pegs which prevent any possible separation of joints and permanently eliminates any kind of “squeaking” when walked upon. The construction material is native stone, and over head beams are 4” x 16” in thickness and width, respectively. The surrounding premises are landscaped and beautiful in every way. They present a beautiful picture in every respect.

If you should pay this ranch a visit, you will probably find a young man just 32 years old out somewhere on the range with the Aberdeen-Angus cattle, or sitting in his well appointed office in the residence thumbing through his records or using the typewriter at which he is an expert, a man of medium build, and the youthful proportion. Yes, and he will be wearing boots—that will be James H. Dillard.

Then, if you have the time go over to Jerry H. Dillard’s ranch and you will find a close counterpart. The heading title of the Dillard Ranch includes both James H. and Jerry H. Dillard, since their respective spreads comprise the original holdings of their father, the late Josiah Hamilton Dillard from Mississippi. And Josiah Hamilton Dillard wrote his name in capital letters in the History of Jefferson County. But leave it to the present generation to build bigger and better, but on the foundations put down by their forefathers.

THE D. H. STONE RANCH

This 10,000 acre ranch adjoins the City of Waurika on the east. This spread of grazing land has been accumulated through the past thirty-seven years by methodical and persistent effort. Mr. Stone made his initial purchase in 1920. This consisted of 5 acres adjoining Waurika on the east.

If one should stand in the center of Federal Highway No. 70 at the point where this highway is crossed by the Indian Meridian, the 98th Meridian of longitude, and face due east, he may see the crest of the rise one mile away. It is at that crest where highways No. 70 and No. 81 cross at right angles. It has been repeatedly said this is the only instance where two Federal Highways cross at right angles.

If this be true, the D. H. Stone ranch is the only one which crosses at right angles, because it lies along either side of these two highways. In doing this, the ranch presents the same geometrical figure as the two highways present.

With few exceptions of small tracts, the general outline of this ranch may be accurately described as follows:

From the intersection of highways No. 81 and 70, this ranch runs five and one-half miles north on the east and west side of No. 81 to within one-half mile of the south boundary line of Addington. And from this highway intersection, the spread extends three miles south on the east and west sides of Highway 81. Then, as if to form a letter T, the holdings extend from the highway intersection five miles east on both the north and south sides of Highway No. 70.

If it be correct to say that this intersection of Federal Highways at right angles is the only one of its kind in our county, then it would be correct to say the D. H. Stone ranch is the only one shaped as it is. It would take a lot of research to disprove the statement.

The ranch has various pastures, practically all of which face a paved U. S. Highway. The fencing is all of good quality material and construction.

D. H. Stone is a practical man. He gives studied consideration to all of his plans. Nothing he does is the result of guess work.

To illustrate this, we have but to look these pastures over. When the dry years overtook the entire County and the skies were “brass” for month after month, water became the all engaging problem to most every stockman. D. H. Stone’s problem was well nigh the same every way one might look, as faced every other cattle ranch.

There are thirty windmills on this ranch in addition to about one hundred earthen stock ponds. You will note this is a pond to every 100 acres.

The ranch is equipped with good quality loading pens, and the ranch home is supplied with running water from the City of Waurika. The home is supplied with natural gas, electric service and private telephone line.

And this equipment of this home reminds the writer of the only business transaction he ever had with D. H. Stone. This transaction gave me an insight to the real character underlying his life.

He called one day in the office of the Public Service Company of which I happened to be man-

ager in Jefferson County from 1922 to 1942. This was D. H. Stone's approach. Quote "Dyer, what will I have to do to get electric service to my home?" Now the home then, as now, was out on the highway three-fourths of a mile from the electric company's nearest pole at that time. My reply, "Mr. Stone, I can't say. Give me a few days to communicate with the head office. I'll have to submit that for approval, because it is out-side the City limits and will require nearly a mile of construction, material and labor."

This was Mr. Stone's reply, "I'll tell you what I'll do. I want the service and am willing to pay my full share of the cost. If you people will build that line, I'll pay for every item of material that goes into it and your company will be out nothing but the labor."

Whereupon, I told him that was more than fair. And I would recommend the building of the line. I submitted the proposition to my superiors with my recommendation we build the line. The general office did not take time to write about the matter. They asked no questions. The telephone message was "Build the line." That line still carries electric service to the D. H. Stone ranch home and to several other homes along the line. This line is within easy reach of the new Waurika High School which is presently under construction.

From that day until this, I have had an understanding of D. H. Stone's attitude, and that underneath an apparently rough exterior at times, there beats a heart of fairness and co-operation.



Mrs. Oolucha Barrett's Ranch Home.

Mrs. Oolucha Barrett, widow of M. H. Barrett, Jr., lives just east of Ryan in a beautiful home surrounded by stately oaks which combine to produce a foreground for the residence.

This ranch where Aberdeen-Angus and White-face Herefords may be seen lazily grazing, as if selecting the choice of grasses, is only one of a number of ranches stretching out in a natural display of ranch life most all the way on this route from Ryan to Grady.

Mrs. Barrett's ranch is on the north side of the highway. These ranches, distributed as they are, alternate from the north side of the highway to the south side in a well nigh geometrical precision.



Lawrence and Verna Brown Ranch Home.

As one drives farther toward the east from Oolucha Barrett's ranch, the Lawrence and Verna Brown ranch is immediately noticeable on the south side of State Highway No. 32. The residence adorns the summit of a perfectly natural rise of the land from the highway to the south where this home is located.

This is the second zig-zag the ranches along the highway unconsciously form by their respective locations.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown, if not pioneers in their own right, certainly derive from a pioneer lineage which have contributed generously and wisely to the foundation stones on which Oklahoma and particularly Jefferson County have been built.

Mrs. Brown is a daughter of the late Oscar W. Seay whose connection with Jefferson County has been related in the Chapter on the Oscar community.

This ranch is replete with every convenience expected on a well ordered spread. Bins, barns and sheds, plus all needed accessories abound on every hand. There on hand and on the job is a dependable man to assist in the operation of this ranch. This is a Chickasaw Indian man, who, when asked if he liked his job, very promptly replied, "Yes sir." Mr. and Mrs. Brown were not at home that day, and that native of the Chickasaws was not indulging in "window-dressing." He said it in a tone that proved his sincerity.

And we know the Browns well enough to know their helper was telling the truth. Keep the good work going, Mr. Brown, you and Verna.

THE OTTO BOUND RANCH

When viewing the Lawrence and Verna Brown ranch, we are about nine miles east of Ryan. Drive on east on Highway No. 32 another mile and look off to the north and the Otto Bound ranch is before your eyes. It, too, forms the next zig-zag in the line of ranches in this area.

Otto Bound is the son of a pioneer Jefferson County citizen, and an honorable citizen he was. His memory is revered by all who knew him. J. M. Bound was elected as County Commissioner from the Ryan district at Statehood. Hence, it became a part of his duty, acting in conjunction with the other two members of the Board, to set up housekeeping in County government. The problems presented were not easily solved, but J. M. Bound showed his metal; and his mannerisms were so manifestly fair and laden with suggestions that were fraught with economy and good

sense, he was heard with sympathy and understanding by the other members of the Board and by all newly elected county officials.

Such a Dad Otto Bound had. Let it not be forgotten, Otto Bound is a "chip off the old block." His ranch home occupies a beautiful site along side the highway where all his ranching neighbors are in sight or easily reached. Yes, you will see some nice white face Herefords grazing along the fence line which shuts them off the highway.

Otto, we take our hats off to you and your neighbors. All are doing a good job in a worthy way. May your tribe increase.

Then farther on east approximately four miles, and to the south again, we are along side the highway looking to our right at oil wells pumping and storage tanks all set out at appropriate and convenient intervals. This is a part of the Wilmer Seay Ranch.

A somewhat detailed account of this large spread has been recited in the chapter on The Oscar Community which took its name from the late Oscar W. Seay who wrought well as a pioneer and worthy citizen. Mr. Wilmer Seay is a son of the late Oscar W. Seay.

Now on toward the east and we find the next Whiteface Hereford Ranch on the north side of the highway. This is the Scott Dennis Ranch to which we now invite your attention.



Scott Dennis, father Ranch Home.

The Scott Dennis Ranch of Whitefaces is located on the north side of the State Highway and near the Grady Community. This is State Highway No. 32 from Ryan to Marietta, Oklahoma. This ranch was once owned by Mr. Virgil Biffle and his brother-in-law, Mr. Reuben Brown. It consists at the present time of seven sections, slightly more or less, of as fine grazing as one would expect to find anywhere, and the topography of the land is beautiful to look upon. Indeed, it has been landscaped by a Master hand and nature makes no mistakes.

Biffle and Brown sold this ranch to J. N. Howard who continued to enlarge and develop a program that found a leading place in the cattle industry of Jefferson County. It would appear to a close observer, that continued enlargement is in progress yet. Under the guiding spirit of Mr. Scott Dennis and his son, Don, this spread will measure up to the ideals of the most experienced cattle growers of our day.

Mr. Dennis is a native of Texas, having been born at Alvord, in Wise County, Texas. He moved

onto this ranch in January, 1917. One may sit on the front porch of the Scott Dennis home and see Red River and the area of Nocona, Texas, easily, though it is not nearly as close as one might think.

Every improvement on this ranch assumes big proportions, the residence, the storm refuge, the barns, corrals, even to the chickens, guineas, peafowls, and the one big dog that insists on shaking hands with you, and when you shake his right foot which he puts up to you first, he then hands you the other foot. And when he goes through this salutation, he turns and walks off as stately as royalty.



Don Dennis, the son, Ranch Home.

The view as one looks south is attractive in that the spaces all seem to have been enlarged to unusual proportions with continually changing patterns.

Mr. Dennis is a real estate owner of some very desirable property in Waurika and is a frequent visitor to the County Seat.

A son, Don Dennis, owns a beautiful home near by the father and mother, thus furnishing another "father and son" combination of ranching activities which works so well and is to be found in numerous instances in Jefferson County.

When every element involved in the cattle business is taken into consideration, Jefferson County is among the best to be found anywhere. A favorable climate practically free from snow storms and blasts of freezing weather. Cattle may have the run of the entire range for twelve months of the year and without any special or extra expense of providing shelter. Larger spreads, yes, miles and miles of them—some including a million acres with enclosing fencing, but seven sections of blue stem in Jefferson County, Oklahoma, are worth three times, yes four times, that in many states where ranching is viewed with high favor.



The C. B. Barrett Ranch Home.

The exact date of the beginning of this ranch

is not available. It is thought that Andy Manton, an early date cattleman, may have been the founder, probably the owner immediately preceding M. H. Barrett, Sr. But from the Senior Barrett to date, its ownership is well remembered and known to many.

M. H. Barrett Sr., was a builder from the pioneer days of Jefferson County to his death in 1937. He organized and owned the Peoples Bank and Trust Company of Ryan, and was of much help to the beginning of county government as of November 16, 1907. This fact has been recited in the very early account of Jefferson County house-keeping.

M. H. Barrett volunteered a loan of funds to the County through its duly elected board of County Commissioners which fund was to pay salaries and court expenses until the Commissioners could establish state connections. And if M. H. Barrett Sr. knew how to build as he did, he left behind at his passing sons who not only maintained the foundation their father laid, but added thereto until if the father could return and view the enlarged proportions of his initial beginning, he would stand in amazement and ask "Sons, how did you do it?"

Mr. C. B. Barrett is President of the Peoples Bank and Trust Company, and owns and lives in the ranch home his father and mother built. This home is north of Ryan about three miles. A beautiful location for a large two story residence from which a row of trees extend on either side of the road leading west from the residence to Highway 81. These trees were planted there for a shady land by M. H. Barrett Sr. Mrs. M. H. Barrett, mother of the Barrett sons, lives at Bethany, Oklahoma.

C. B. Barrett advised the present extent of his ranch consists of 3100 acres of deed land, plus 5100 acres of leased land. He handles the White-face Herefords exclusively.



The S. S. Barrett Ranch Home.

This ranch is approximately one mile north of Ryan's east boundary of City limits. A beautiful brick home, surrounded by shade trees makes a setting which attracts the eye of any passer-by. The ranch comprises 3000 acres of deeded land and the Whitefaces which claim it for their grazing land.

Mr. S. S. Barrett has a combination of interests here that is seldom found. In fact, we believe it

will be correct to say this "doubled barrel" interest is not found any where in Jefferson County except on this ranch. Barrett is a breeder of racing stock. In this connection, he is the owner of Auntie, a thoroughbred racing mare. This animal rates a very high pedigree, being the colt of Time Signal and Aunt Bruce.

She has won 39 races, the earnings from which total \$113,085.00. She did this between her 3 to 8 years of age. This fine animal with brown silken hair and the fire of the race track still in her eyes has been accounted by the horse racing industry as the "greatest race mare ever bred in Oklahoma, and one of the greatest of all time." But in her last race strained a ligament in one leg. This put Auntie on the retired list of active racers.

Her proud owner is keeping her for breeding purpose. He hauled her to California and mated her with "Cover up" a racing stallion noted and known by every racing stable in England and the United States. The fee for this service was \$1500. And while Auntie will race no more, it is highly probable her foal will maintain her record. It will be interesting to await the outcome of this enviable record.

Incidentally, the owner of this racing stallion with which Auntie was mated is Mr. Zack Addington. Does that familiar pioneer name ring the bell in your recollection of fifty years ago when Zack Addington owned the livery barn at Addington, the town which bears his name? Mr. Barrett says it is the same family.

Thus, we find on this ranch in addition to the cattle industry an intensely interesting enterprise within itself. And who does not enjoy watching a race? The grand stands of every athletic field in the world are usually filled to capacity with admirers of the athletic world.

And don't ever forget that the most highly spirited animal known to man, the horse knows when he or she wins just as well as the onlookers know. And every body loves a horse.

THE JONES BARRETT RANCH

The Barretts are a ranch minded people. M. H. Barrett, Jr. was the same ranch minded type as his three brothers. Had he lived, all four of these brothers would be in the ranching business today. His wife, Oolucha Barrett, is carrying on in a great way on the ranch she and her husband were on at the time of his death.

Now comes Mr. Jones Barrett with a spread reaching from the limits of Ryan along both the east and west sides of Highway 81 north for nearly one third of the way to Waurika. On this ranch are to be seen great numbers of as good looking Herefords as will be found anywhere. One who admires fat, sleek cattle can but notice this herd of Whitefaces. No more attractive pictures than those of the living specimens of the best of their breed.

Jones Barrett is doing a good job at producing beef which aids in feeding what could otherwise be a hungry world. It is difficult to imagine the situation which could easily result from withholding the beef steaks from American tables.

The bovine tribe is the only entirely herbivorous domestic animal we know. And grass, green

and growing in the pastures, is the cheapest food. Given a reasonable amount of rainfall, and Jefferson County can compete with any section of any State. And when this combination of rain, sunshine and water comes to the cattle man, the matter of beef steak can be forgotten in so far as production goes.

The Barretts know how it is done. They and all other ranchmen of our county have contributed in a major way to the economy of our State and Nation.

We repeat a statement made early in this Jefferson County story. Three-fourths of the area of Jefferson County lies east of the 98th Meridian and is devoted to the cattle industry. And so, Jones Barrett, keeps the industry going.

THE CURRY RANCH

It has been stated in this History of Jefferson County that the County's economic welfare is largely based on the ranching industry. And we have seen the ranching picture as it is found east of the 98th Meridian.

At this point in our story, let us step over on the west side of this area, dividing line and take a brief look at the Curry Ranch which is located five miles west of Waurika and lying north of Highway No. 70.

In 1902, Oklahoma called to Frank Curry and his brother, Nathan. Frank Curry was a native of Illinois, moving early in life with his parents to Texas.

Once in Texas, the spirit of the pioneer with its love for adventure became a vital part of Frank Curry's life. For several years he rode the range with other Texas Cowboys, following the trail through summer's heat and winter's cold and always a part of the noted Texas round-ups.

When the age of ripeness and maturity overtook Frank Curry, he discovered he had found love outside the Cattle Trails and beyond the branding irons. In 1904, he married Joan Theodosia Christian, daughter of Uncle Tom Christian, another Jefferson County pioneer.

The Currys lived on the same section of land, Frank and Nathan Curry operated. This was their home until 1916 when they moved to Waurika to secure school advantages.

Mr. Curry continued to operate the ranch by commuting each day to the ranch. He started this ranch with the Whiteface Herefords, and thus he continued until his death in 1932.

Since that date, up to and including the present date, Mrs. Curry and her daughter, Miss Bernice, have carried on the operation of the ranch, acquiring more land until now the ranch comprises approximately two sections all of which lies north of Highway No. 70. In doing this, the wife and daughter of Frank Curry have efficiently and bravely upheld the tradition of a good citizen, husband and Dad.

ASPHALTUM

One of the early day settlements in the Indian Territory came to be known as Asphaltum, so called from the asphaltic deposits discovered there. It was once believed to be rich in these bituminous deposits. Much expensive equipment for

mining these deposits were installed. For a while it was thought by some who were designated as experts to be an extensive bed of this substance. However, upon thorough test and many trials, the bituminous beds proved to be too limited and too thin for profitable working.

There are a few names associated with Asphaltum that have been thought of as synonymous with the community name. The Stallings, Lee and Jephtha; this name is well and honorably known to every "old timer" in Jefferson County.

The true pioneer spirit dominated their lives. In this part of Jefferson County, they became a fulcrum on which rested the lever which lifted a higher and more enjoyable state of living. They believed that the best state for social order of man was "law and order". This they always supported.

Mrs. Laura L. White who lives on her ranch east of Addington was, before her marriage to Richard C. White, Miss Laura Stallings. Mr. White passed away approximately one year ago. Mrs. White learned the full meaning of the pioneer spirit in her early life. When left alone, she looked back to former days which had taught her self reliance.

After sober reflection, a quieting thought came to Mrs. White. And her decision was definite. It was, I can, and I will "carry-on" to the best of my ability as did Dick White.

This, she is doing. She is the kind of metal that was in the blood of the Asphaltum pioneers such as have made America great.

THE MYRTLE McDONALD RANCH

This picture is not a common one. A few miles to the east from the ranch home of Mrs. Laura White and on the same side, (the south) of the section line, is the home of Mrs. Myrtle McDonald. Mrs. McDonald's husband passed away a number of years ago. The duties and responsibilities of a ranchman's life fell heavily on her shoulders. To sit and bemoan her loss was a cruel thing to do after she and Thornton McDonald had carried on so bravely during their years together.

What they had accumulated working together had fallen into her lap. New and unbidden responsibilities had been thrust upon her by a stroke of ill fortune. Should she seek a life of ease, or should she carry on as Mr. McDonald and she had done together? She chose the latter. These acres and these cattle and this foster son is now my task. I'll not shirk my plain duty. She believed hard work to be a test of human will and ability.

With the help of the foster son, Myrtle McDonald surprised herself, her neighbors and friends. Whiteface cattle, ranching equipment, all give evidence of good management. Look where you will, and it will take a long time to find two aggressive and capable ranch women as neighbors operating their own spreads in an entirely capable manner.

Each, she and Mrs. Laura White, has a conviction born of faith and experience that holds them to the completion of a task that God would have them do.

The atmosphere in Jefferson County is fresher and sweeter because of the unsullied lives of these and all such as they.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF HELP

In the preparation of this publication, we have enjoyed the voluntary services, and sympathetic helpfulness of numbers of people. There are many whom we wish to thank for their genuine co-operation. To name them all would be a task. However, there are some who took time from their own business to assist in this work.

Joe B. Steele volunteered to take his car and drive any place we wished to go. We visited every town in Jefferson County—most of them two or three calls. We are grateful.

Mrs. Dyer joins me heartily in thanking Mr. G. M. Bryan for his services in securing pictures of some of Jefferson County's ranch homes and other pictures. And when we would return from a trip over a portion of the territory he would say, "When you want to go again, call me."

Mrs. Dyer and I join in gratitude and appreciation of the help and gratuitous service rendered by Mrs. Boyce Johnston. She has used her own car and driven hundreds of miles taking photographs of the Jefferson County ranches and Church buildings until our time had run out and we were compelled to stop.

And wonderful help came from every town in

the County as well as from the rural areas.

We owe Mr. Weldon Guest of Ryan a vote of thanks for his assistance in research for information long forgotten. Being a member of the Oklahoma Historical Society, Mr. Guest was in a position to supply a lot of interesting facts pertaining to our past as a County, which would not otherwise have been available.

Some historic events have gone into the dreamy distant past because no written or printed record had been kept.

All in all, we have done our best. It has been ten months of hard work, but we enjoyed it.

And my deepest gratitude is hereby conveyed to Mrs. Gerald Conners, and Miss Bernice Curry for translating what was sometimes miserably poor long hand writing to the typritten page. Their services have been all that could be desired and we are thankful.

In closing, I am compelled by duty to acknowledge the backing and support of Mrs. Dyer. It was always her tender reminders and helpful suggestions that encouraged my keeping on.

So to everybody, I bow in humility in acknowledgment of your help. .

— Jim Dyer

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